SELECTIONS

FROM THE

RECORDS OF THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA,

HOME DEPARTMENT.

No. CLVII.

VAGRANT BANDS OF FOREIGNERS.

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Extract from the Proceedings of the Government of India in the Home Department (Public),—Nos. 29—989 *to* 29—1000, *under date Simla, the* 20*th May* 1879.

READ again the following correspondence with the several Local Governments and Administrations and other authorities on the subject of the treatment of foreign Asiatic vagrants travelling in India without any ostensible means of livelihood :

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RESOLUTION.

THE question as to the best mode of dealing with bands of foreign vagrants travelling about India has been under the consideration of the Government of India more than once. It appears from the papers mentioned in the preamble that so far back as the 18th February 1856 the Superintendent of the Astragram Division of Mysore addressed the Commissioner of Mysore, Sir Mark Cubbon, in the following terms in regard to certain Iranee vagrants:

On my arrival here this morning I was beset by a crowd who complained that the bazaar and surrounding villages had been plundered yesterday by a large gang of robbers; that, besides ghee, rice, fowl, and other articles of food, they had stolen a bag of Rs. 97 from one person, a handkerchief from another, and a cloth from a sepoy: the robbers are the Iranees who arrived at this place yesterday from Nuggur, in all 160 individuals. I proceeded at once to their encampment, accompanied by the amildar and complainants, to enquire into the complaints.

The Iranees denied the charges of robbery, but reasoned that having left their own country on account of famine and obtained passports authorizing their begging, they had a right to be fed by the villagers, and required three times as much food as the poor wretches of this country; that they did not possess a rupee, and could not subsist on less than Rs. 20 each day; that no Iranee could exist on less than one seer of the finest rice, a seer of the best wheat, and a seer of ghee, besides a sheep of the best sort for every four men and individuals, also a seer of Bengal gram for each pony (72 in all).

If these plundering beggars were not under the protection of an escort, and the inhabitants were not afraid of the Government, there would be many scenes of violence and blood. These sturdy vagrants are now in the heart of the Mysore territory, and I have received the Commissioner's instructions to send an escort with them to Bangalore. I cannot, however, permit the present system of plunder and terror to continue, which excites just discontent amongst the people, and brings dishonour on the British name. I have ordered the Iranees to be fed at the expense of Government, and through Government agency, and appointed a gomastah to accompany the party and keep a daily account, which arrangement will, I trust, meet with the Commissioner's approval.

As the duffadar (who was beaten by them) and peons forming the escort have no control over these lawless and reckless bands, I have ordered a jemadar and twelve sowars to escort the party to Bangalore.

2. In a subsequent letter dated the 21st February 1856 the Superintendent of the Astragram Division reported to the Commissioner that the amildar having attempted to search the baggage of the Iranees accused of the theft of Rs. 97, the gang had loaded ten or fifteen matchlocks with powder and ball and had marched off in a threatening manner.

3. On the 26th February 1856 the Commissioner of Mysore issued the following orders to the Superintendent of Police at Bangalore in regard to the band of Iranees regarding whom the Superintendent of Astragram had reported :

Since entering the Chittledroog Division they have been guilty of acts of violence, plundering villagers of supplies, and setting the police guard which accompanied them at defiance, so as to render it necessary for a guard of Silladars to be placed over them.

It having been arranged that the party should proceed to Madras, *viâ* Oossoor, and as the Magistrate of that district may not have the means at his disposal for controlling these vagabonds, I deem it expedient that they should be disarmed at Bangalore on their arrival there, and I request you will take measures to carry this into effect.

It may be prudent for you to call upon the Officer Commanding Bangalore for military aid to effect this purpose. I therefore request you will do so.

4. On the arrival of the party at Oossoor, where the Iranees had quarrelled among themselves and formed two separate divisions to proceed to different directions, the Magistrate of Salem found great difficulty in managing the vagrants, and had to apply to the Officer Commanding at

Royacottah for military aid. In his letter to the Officer Commanding, the Magistrate of Salem wrote—

The head of police of Oossoor states that the party, consisting of 134 persons, arrived at Oossoor on the 3rd instant accompanied by twelve of the Silladar horse and 30 Mysore peons under a shaikdar, and that the number of peons he has at his disposal is totally inadequate to exercise any effectual control over them. * * *

5. When the Iranees entered fairly into the territories under the jurisdiction of the Madras Government, the Superintendent of Police, Madras, submitted reports to the Local Government, extracts from some of which are given below:

Extract from a letter dated 12th March 1856.—Parties from the wandering tribes of Persia frequently visit India and cause great uneasiness to the inhabitants. In October 1842 a large party of Persians found their way to the Neilgherries, which I brought to the notice of the Magistrate of Malabar, as will be seen by his letter to Government under date the 27th of October. Again, in November 1846 I forwarded to Government a letter from the Head Assistant Magistrate of Guntoor reporting the conduct of a party of Persians who had landed at Masulipatam, on which occasion I addressed Government at length on the 19th January 1846. These people were brought to the Presidency, and, notwithstanding the precautions taken, they contrived to cause much alarm by their daring conduct. They entered the houses of the inhabitants by way of begging, but frequently used threats to extort money. I beg leave respectfully to suggest that the party now approaching may be ordered to halt at Poonamallee, and placed in the fort under a military guard, if necessary. The principal men only should be sent into Madras for examination, though there is, in truth, no use in this, for their stories never vary.

Extract from a letter dated 7th April 1856.—They were examined separately and cross-examined closely, and there is no reason whatever to doubt the fact that they left their own country under severe pressure, principally caused by a famine; and that they wandered to India, like many others of their countrymen, with the object of begging and hoarding. They have petitions in the English language setting forth their misery and hardships and craving charity. * * *

6. Speaking of a feud that existed between the several sets of people composing the party, and the desire of each set to travel separately from the rest, the Superintendent of Police, Madras, wrote thus in the same letter:

First, because they cannot agree, and, secondly, because they find that their number alarms the inhabitants of the villages; and, moreover, that they find difficulty in some places to procure provisions in sufficient quantity. They distinctly state that they can make their way through

the country in an honest and peaceable manner by the contributions which they collect from charitable persons in towns and large places. * * *

7. The Superintendent of Police added—

After I had arranged the parties this morning in a very quiet manner, and just as I was leaving, unfortunately two women of distinct parties quarrelled and instantly came to blows, and it was with some difficulty that they were torn asunder. I sent the aggressor to a cell, and the other was taken away by her friends, and I did not leave the place until the excitement caused by this squabble had subsided. I had scarcely reached the quarters of Colonel Impett when word was brought that a general fight had commenced, and I returned to the fort, in company with the Colonel, where a remarkable scene presented itself: nearly the whole body, men and women, were in open skirmishing order, generally armed with long bamboo staves, and a sharp action with brickbats and stones was going on from the rear and flanks, whilst the centre was earnestly fighting hand to hand. At this period there was not a sound beyond the blows: all were deeply engaged in this great conflict between the two parties, in which the women distinguished themselves for their fury and violence. The body of one woman was lying near the centre in a state of insensibility, covered with blood, and most of them were bleeding from wounds in different parts of their bodies. It was with the greatest difficulty that the parties were separated and disarmed; and the only way to prevent the renewal of the fight was by removing the Kirmanites in a body from the fort under a strong military guard into some public bungalow in the neighbourhood where a guard will be placed. Fortunately the doctor was on the ground, and the woman who was so severely wounded received immediate attention, and the others had their wounds dressed. This scene was a good example of what might be the consequence if these people were permitted to wander through the country except under supervision; and I beg leave to suggest that they may be started in four or five detached bodies under surveillance of the civil authorities in routes laid down for them. They all express a desire to journey towards Calcutta, but in my humble opinion it will be advisable to send them to the Northern parts of the Bombay districts, to pass through Sind, towards Afghanistan. The inhabitants of the countries to the West are far better able to deal with these sorts of people. * * *

8. The Madras Government approved certain arrangements for sending on the Iranee vagrants to Afghanistan, and submitted the whole correspondence for the consideration of the Government of India, drawing special attention to the mischief occasioned by bodies of people of this description being allowed to pass freely through British territories. In reply* the Madras Government were informed

* No. 703, dated 6th June 1856.

that the Governor General in Council admitted the necessity for a law to enable the Local Government, or its officers, to deal with foreign Asiatic vagrants, and that the Legislative Member for Madras might be instructed to introduce a Bill for that purpose into the Council of the Governor General. The Madras Government, however, did† not agree in the suitability of the remedy proposed. They explained that they had addressed the Government of India in the matter of the Iranee vagrants not in consequence of the insufficiency of the law of that Presidency to deal with such vagrants, as under Regulation II., 1822, Section 3, and Regulation VI., 1827, Section 6, of the Madras Code, the Magistrate had ample powers to hold them to security, or to commit them to prison. The Madras Government added—

† Letter from Madras No. 735, dated 10th July 1856.

(2.) * * * But this proceeding, besides bearing hardly on the families of the men who may be sent to jail, would burden the Government with the expense of maintaining the men who are imprisoned, or rather the whole party during the entire period of their detention; and it would still be a question how to dispose of them when liberated, the only course being to pass them back towards their own country, as has recently been done with the Iranees.

(3.) The Madras Government would desire to suggest for the consideration of the Government of India whether it would not be preferable to have recourse to measures of prevention rather than coercion, and whether instructions might not be sent to the authorities on the West and North-Western frontier to prevent such parties of vagabonds from passing through their districts at all.

(4.) On the occasion now under reference the Iranees would seem to have proceeded in two parties—one *viâ* Peshawar and the Punjab, and one *viâ* Candahar and Mooltan,—and to have been roaming for a length of time through the Company's Provinces without apparently check or interference on the part of the authorities until they entered the Madras territories.

9. On a perusal of this reference from the Madras Government the Government of India were led to consider the different treatment which the foreign vagrants received from the several Local Governments. The system of granting passports which obtained in some Provinces specially attracted attention; and the result of the discussion which ensued was the recording of a Resolution, under date the 15th August 1856, to the effect that the passage of bands

of foreign vagrants through any part of India was objectionable; and that, as suggested by the Madras Government, the best plan would be to direct the (Sind and Punjab authorities) Local Administrations of the frontier Provinces to take the necessary steps for the prevention of foreign vagabonds from entering into the interior of India through the frontier districts. It having appeared from the papers then before the Government of India that while in the Salem District the Iranees had been allowed at the public expense Rs. 20 and seven sheep a day for their subsistence, on the ground that the same course had been followed in the Mysore territories, this extraordinary method of dealing with these people, as if they were honoured guests, was also noticed in the orders of the Government of India. The necessary orders were then issued to the local authorities concerned.

10. In explaining the circumstances under which the Iranees had been permitted to pass through the Mysore territories and to enter the Madras districts, Sir Mark Cubbon referred to the remarkable scenes witnessed by the Madras Superintendent of Police at the Fort of Poonamallee, and observed that such reckless and disorderly persons could hardly be expected to be overawed by the ordinary village police; neither were they likely to submit to any but an overwhelming force of Native troops without a sanguinary struggle. Sir Mark Cubbon added—

(8.) The question was a difficult one in whatever way it was looked at, but I was resolved to spare blood, if possible; and I could see no alternative but to feed them at the public expense until I had the means of coercing them under circumstances which would render resistance hopeless. I might then, it is true, have punished them for their turbulent conduct; but I could only have done so by throwing the whole gang into jail, which would have added to the cost of feeding them, and only postponed the difficulty of dealing with them when released.

11. In consideration of the explanation furnished by Sir Mark Cubbon, and of certain other papers received from the Bombay Government, the Supreme Government took into consideration the conduct of the officers who granted passports to the Iranees; and they issued a notification on the 24th November 1856 strictly prohibiting the practice, on the part of Magistrates and other civil and political

authorities, of granting passports to persons travelling, or intending to travel, from one part of India to another. The attention of the several Local Governments and Administrations was at the same time drawn to these orders with a request that the necessary instructions should be issued to all subordinate authorities for the strict observance of those orders. The Foreign Department was also requested to issue similar instructions to the Political Officers under that Department.

12. In October 1857, owing to the then disturbed state of the country, and to the desire of some British subjects travelling to different districts on business to be furnished with the protection of passports, and with reference to certain instructions of the late Court of Directors for the adoption of measures to prevent foreigners from travelling over the country, the Madras Government requested permission to revive the passport system.

The Madras Government were in reply informed, under date the 29th December 1857, when a Bill regarding the treatment of foreigners had just been passed by the Imperial Legislature, that the passport system afforded no security whatever to a Government unless it was worked by a much more numerous and efficient police than any part of India then possessed, whilst such a system was open to very great abuse. It was added that if the Government of Madras felt that in any part of that Presidency security to life and property would be increased by the adoption of the passport system "in these exceptional times", His Lordship would offer no objection.

13. When the correspondence with the Madras Government was reported to the Secretary of State in a despatch dated the 16th December 1858, the Secretary of State in reply expressed a hope that the necessity for such unusual precautions as a system of passports for travelling within India had ceased to exist.

14. On the 22nd July 1859 the Government of India forwarded to the Government of Madras a copy of the Secretary of State's despatch above referred to, and enquired whether the practice of granting passports in that Presidency was still continued, and whether the Madras Government

considered it desirable to maintain it. On the 12th September 1859 the Madras Government replied that the practice of granting passports had already been discontinued in that Presidency. They added that "since the passing of Act XXXIII. of 1857 foreigners have not been allowed to travel or pass through any part of the Madras territories without a license; but the *Native* subjects of the French and Portuguese Settlements, as well as the subjects of the Cochin, Travancore and Hyderabad States, have been exempted from the operation of the Act".

15. The object of the law,* referred to by the Madras Government and passed during the year 1857-58, was to enable the several Local Governments and Administrations in British India to prevent subjects of foreign States from residing or sojourning therein, or from passing through or travelling in the same, without the consent of the said Governments. The law was originally a temporary one, but was continued from time to time. When the continuing Act of 1862 was about to expire, carrying with it the law of 1857, it appeared to the Government of India that the power reserved to the Governor General in Council, and the executive Governments of Presidencies and Provinces, by Sections 13 and 14 of Act XXXIII. of 1857, might properly be possessed by those authorities as a permanent arrangement. At a meeting of the Legislative Council on the 16th December 1863, in introducing a Bill to enact, with certain modifications, the provisions of the law of 1857 as a permanent measure, the Honourable Sir Henry Maine spoke as follows:

* Act XXXIII. of 1857.

> The Foreigners Act was originally passed in the year of the mutinies, but it was a temporary measure, terminable in December 1859: it had, however, been since continued from time to time, and expired only on the 5th of this present month of December. The last of the Acts, continuing the Foreigners Act in operation, was in truth passed in order to give the Government of India time to consult the Local Governments as to the necessity of renewing the Act. The replies of the Local Governments had lately been received. * * *
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> They all said that although they very rarely had occasion to put in force the powers vested in them by the Foreigners Act, still they considered that they ought not to be wholly deprived of those powers in case any necessity for making use of them should arise. * * *

16. The Bill introduced into Council by Sir Henry Maine on the 16th December 1863 was passed into law as

Act III. of 1864. In this Act the word "foreigner" is defined to mean "a person not being either a natural-born "subject of Her Majesty within the meaning of the Statute "3 and 4 William IV., Chapter LXXXV., Section 81, or a "native of British India". Below is given a copy of Sections 3, 4 and 5 of the Act:

(3.) The Governor General of India in Council may, by writing, order any foreigner to remove himself from British India, or to remove himself therefrom by a particular route to be specified in the order, and any Local Government may, by writing, make the like order with reference to any foreigner within the jurisdiction of such Government.

(4.) If any foreigner ordered to remove himself from British India, or ordered to remove himself therefrom by a particular route, shall neglect or refuse so to do; or if any foreigner having removed himself from British India in consequence of an order issued under any of the provisions of this Act; or having been removed from British India under any of the said provisions, shall wilfully return thereto without a license, in writing, granted by the Governor General of India in Council, or by the Local Government under whose order he shall have removed himself or been removed, such foreigner may be apprehended and detained in safe custody until he shall be discharged therefrom by order of the Governor General of India in Council, or of the Local Government within whose jurisdiction he shall be so apprehended or detained, upon such terms and conditions as the said Governor General of India in Council, or Local Government, shall deem sufficient for the peace and security of British India, and of the allies of Her Majesty, and of the neighbouring Princes and States.

(5.) Whenever the Governor General of India in Council shall consider it necessary to take further precautions in respect of foreigners residing or travelling in British India, or any part thereof, it shall be lawful for the Governor General of India in Council, by a notification published in the *Gazette of India*, to order that the provisions of this and the subsequent sections of this Act shall be in force in British India, or in such part thereof as shall be specified in such notification, for such period as shall be therein declared; and thereupon, and for such period, the whole of this Act, including this and the subsequent sections, shall have full force and effect in British India or such part thereof as shall have been so specified. * * *

17. About the end of the year 1865 the subject of bands of foreign vagrants again came to notice, when a large band of Heratees was wandering about the Madras Presidency; and the Superintendent of Police, Tinnevelly, reported* as folows to the local Inspector General of Police:

* Under date the 13th September 1865.

Some two months ago I received information from the Superintendent of Police, Madura, that a party of about 105 Heratees were travelling South; that they were inclined to be troublesome, taking fowls and other things from the villagers without paying for them. He mentioned having sent four constables to accompany the party to prevent any abuse on their part in the Madura District, and requested me to relieve his men. * * * They came down to Palamcottah by the trunk road (No. 4), and in several places through which they passed there were outcries of theft *after they had left the village*. The women of the party were accused of thieving by magic, and other sorts of nonsense, managing to take away jewels and money from houses that were closely locked; but nothing conclusive could be brought home to them.

While in Palamcottah they were inclined to be troublesome, and had to be narrowly watched by the town police, who checked any oppression they attempted there.

They had received passports from the Magistrates of several districts through which they had passed, and these passports they appear to make use of, saying that they are 'Queen's orders', to enable them to do what they like.

18. The practice of deporting wandering vagrants of the above description to their own country had been approved by the late Court of Directors in a Political despatch No. 48, dated the 30th December 1857. On the Inspector General of Police submitting the Tinnevelly Superintendent's report for the consideration of the Local Government, His Excellency the Governor in Council directed all Magistrates to refuse passports in such cases, and to be especially careful to send such foreign vagrants back towards their own country, instead of allowing them to pass onwards through the Madras districts. His Excellency in Council observed that the course generally to be followed in respect to these vagrants was to compel the gang to quit British territory by the nearest route in the direction of their own country, and for this purpose to pass them back under police surveillance; but certainly not to advance them further into British districts, unless with the view of reaching the coast as the nearest point whence they might be deported. His Excellency in Council further remarked [that in dealing with these foreign vagrants the principles of Act III. of 1864 should be kept in view.

19. In reporting to the Governor General in Council their proceedings in regard to the vagrants referred to in the report of the Tinnevelly Police Superintendent, and regarding

another party found to be travelling about the Cuddapah District in the early part of October 1865, the Government of Madras suggested, in a letter dated the 19th October 1865, that steps should be taken to check the facilities for ingress and free passage which appeared to exist "for these gangs of thieving foreigners"; and that the Punjab and Sind authorities should be instructed to prevent the entrance of foreign vagrants into the British dominions. But no measures were taken with reference to the cases mentioned by the Madras Government, and no report was made regarding the Magistrates by whom passports were originally granted to the parties to enable them to enter into and travel in British territory. All that could be done was to issue a circular* inviting the attention of all the Local Governments and Administrations to the orders of the 24th November 1856, noticed in paragraph 11 of this Resolution, prohibiting the grant of passports to persons travelling within British India.

* Home Department Circular Nos. 104 to 112, dated 6th January, 1866.

20. In August 1867 the Punjab Government brought to notice that two gangs of Heratee vagrants had recently passed through Delhi to Ajmere, and that the gangs were possessed of a considerable quantity of money and jewellery, said to have been acquired by trading, and had with them several passports granted by different civil and political authorities. The result was that the attention of the Local Government concerned and of the Foreign Department was again invited to the orders of the 24th November 1856 and 6th January 1866, prohibiting the grant of passports, with a view to the officers who granted passports to the Heratees being informed of the impropriety of their conduct.

21. Subsequently, in consideration of certain explanations furnished by the Commissioner of Mysore and by the Governor General's Agent for Central India as to the circumstances under which passes had been granted to the Heratee vagrants mentioned in the preceding paragraph, the Government of India considered it necessary to issue some general instructions in respect of the mode of dealing with such vagrants in future. Below is given an extract from the circular orders issued on the 12th November 1868 to all Local Governments and Administrations on the subject, as follows:

(2.) The necessity of strictly observing the orders of Government which prohibit the issue of passports or *rahdari parwanahs* should be impressed on all magisterial authorities.

(3.) The provisions of Act XXXI. of 1860 (The Arms Act) should be stringently enforced in respect of all foreigners whose occupation and means of livelihood are not removed from all suspicion.

(4.) Whenever it may appear to an officer in charge of a district that the presence there of any such band of foreigners is undesirable, instead of passing them on to an adjacent district, he should submit a report of the circumstances through the proper authority to the Local Government, which will then, if sufficient cause be shewn, deal with the case under the provisions of Sections 3 and 4 of Act III. of 1864.

(5.) Care must at the same time be taken that under the orders now issued no vexatious and unnecessary interference shall be exercised towards bodies of peaceable foreign merchants or traders who may visit India with the distinct aim of trafficking at particular marts, or residing at particular centres of commerce and industry.

(6.) The Governor General in Council will not object to vest, if necessary, Chief Commissioners with the powers of a Local Government under Act III. of 1864; and should any Local Government or Administration be of opinion that the provisions of the first four sections of the Act are not sufficient check upon the evil to be redressed, an application should be made for the extension to such territories of the remaining sections of the Act.

22. In June 1869 a gang of foreigners, calling themselves Mekranees, Heratees and Cashmerees, and numbering in all 114 souls, visited the Kaira District of Guzerat in the Bombay Presidency. The Magistrate of Kaira was of opinion that so large a concourse of foreigners, coming from countries where the habits of the people were notoriously lawless, was fraught with danger to the peace and quiet of his district, and he reported the matter to the Divisional Commissioner with a view to orders of Government being obtained for the disposal of the gang. On being addressed by the Commissioner of the Northern Division on the subject, the Bombay Government consulted their Advocate General in regard to their power to deport the vagrants in question: and in accordance with the advice given by that officer, the Bombay Government made suitable arrangements for the deportation of the band of foreigners to their own country. In the course of the correspondence that took place as to the deportation cf the vagrants, the District Superintendent of Police, Kurrachee, wrote as

follows, alluding to the fact of these very vagrants having previously been deported on several occasions and having as often returned to India by some other route. He said—

(3.) These men are a species of gipsies: they are by no means paupers, and profess to deal in pearls, stones, and also to be horse-dealers. They never remain for any length of time in one place.

(4.) I consider that it is useless expense to be continually deporting them and sending them towards Cashmere, which is merely their nominal country. They no sooner get there than they start on fresh expeditions, and work their way through Central India into the Madras and Bombay Presidencies.

(5.) The police are well able to deal with these men should they infringe the law.

23. The Commissioner in Sind concurred in the above opinion; but the Government of Bombay thought differently. They were of opinion that these vagrants might not do much mischief in Sind owing to the warlike habits of the people on the frontier, and their ability to resist extortionate proceedings; but that as regards people of the more settled Regulation Provinces, the deportation of such gangs would undoubtedly be a public good.

24. In July 1869 the Chief Commissioner of the Central Provinces forwarded correspondence in regard to two bands of foreign vagrants who had been found wandering in the Baitool and Nimar Districts, respectively, with *rahdari parwanahs* and licenses granted by authorities in Bengal and the Central Provinces. Of the Nimar gang, the Deputy Commissioner of the district wrote as follows:

* * * On leaving Khundwa, however, they took the Asseerghur road, and at Borgaon were reported to have committed a series of outrages which are now under investigation. The first was a dacoity by seven women of the party committed on another woman resident at Borgaon, in which property amounting to about Rs. 300 is said to have been robbed. The other two were assaults by several of the men on two travellers at different places on the road, one of which was accompanied by robbery. On receiving these reports I had the whole gang brought back to Khundwa. Some little resistance was offered to their apprehension by the police, and the two leaders have been convicted by Captain Scott of this offence and sentenced to a small fine. The gang consists of sixteen men, sixteen women, and 24 children, who have with them 40 ponies. Seven women and four men are in jail, while the charges above-mentioned are being investigated. Of the other twelve men, two are at large with the women and children, who are encamped outside the town under surveillance, and the other

ten are in hawalut under remand, the police having reports of other thefts, &c., committed on the line of march adopted by these wanderers, which may possibly bring the whole gang under Section 401 of the Indian Penal Code. * * * Amongst their property and on their persons was found a large number of gold and silver ornaments, some of which have already been recognized as the produce of the Borgaon dacoity. I think it is not at all improbable that most of these have been obtained by theft and robbery in the course of their wanderings, and enquiries are now being made by the police along their back tracks. Four of the men were armed with double-barrelled guns, and five with single barrels and a pistol. They had arms licenses of different dates and places, altogether six in number. * * *

25. The Chief Commissioner thereupon recorded an order under Section 3 of Act III. of 1864 directing "certain persons, numbering between 50 and 60, professing to be inhabitants of Cashmere, who are at present at Khundwa, in the District of Nimar, without any ostensible purpose or object, to remove themselves from British India".

26. In April 1872 the Quarter Master General submitted to the Military Department copy of a report by the Officer Commanding at Jalpaiguri to the effect that a party of Cashmerees, about 25 in number, were wandering about Titalia, armed with double-barrelled guns and rifles, plundering the villages along their route, and keeping the districts in a state of alarm and anxiety. The Military Department called upon the Bengal Government for a report on the subject. The report furnished by the Bengal Government contained a full description of the party and their doings, and also shewed that the incursion of the foreigners had caused the people attending a fair customarily held at Titalia at the time to disperse in a panic. It further appeared that the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal had ordered the gang to be dealt with in accordance with the provisions of Section 3 of Act III. of 1864.

27. The action of the Bengal Government in regard to the Titalia vagrants was approved by the Government of India in the Home Department orders dated the 20th June 1872.

28. In January 1873 the Government of Bengal submitted a correspondence on the subject of a band of foreigners, alleging themselves to belong to Lus Beyla, who

had been wandering for the past three years in different parts of Bengal. The Lieutenant-Governor wrote—

(3.) Wherever they have gone they have proved a source of annoyance and terror to the inhabitants, and have frequently been guilty of committing acts of petty mischief and plunder; some members of the gangs have also been committed for trial for dacoity. Under these circumstances the local officers have found it necessary to watch and control their movements. The Commissioners of the divisions through which they have travelled are strongly of opinion that such bands of foreigners, who are of superior physique to the natives of this country, should not be allowed to roam in this way through Bengal, and recommend that they be sent back to their own country. * * *

(5.) The Commissioner of Bhagalpur now reports the arrival at Bhagalpur of both these gangs, numbering 105 souls; states that they are very troublesome, and that it is exceedingly difficult to manage them.

29. The Lieutenant-Governor proposed to treat these bands under the provisions of Section 3 of Act III. of 1864, and His Honor's proposal was approved by the Government of India in Home Department letter No. 619, dated the 15th February 1873.

30. About this time the Government of the North-Western Provinces submitted papers relating to an affray between certain villagers of the Ghazipur District and a band of wandering Iranees. In September 1873 the Commissioner in Sind reported to the Government of India that certain vagrants deported to Bunder Abbas had returned to Guadur on their way back to Sind. The Commissioner expressed an opinion that some special measures should be applied to these men, as otherwise it would not be possible to keep them out of India. Being asked whether he could not deal with these foreign vagrants under Section 4 of Act III. of 1864, the Commissioner in Sind represented that as Section 4 of Act III. of 1864 only provided for the detention of vagrants, something more was required to prevent them from perpetually returning as they do. They might, he said, be brought under the provisions of Sections 504, &c., of Act X. of 1872 (The Criminal Procedure Code). But these provisions, he feared, might not be immediately applicable to all vagrant gangs, as some of the foreigners pretended to do some work.

31. This correspondence with the Commissioner in Sind was forwarded* to the Government of Bombay with the following remark:

* Home Department letter No. 3116, dated 7th October 1873.

(2.) I am to remark that Section 4 of Act III. of 1864 authorizes detention of foreign vagrants who may also be dealt with under Chapter XXXVIII. of the Criminal Procedure Code. If it shall appear that further and more stringent steps are needed to put an end to what may be a dangerous nuisance, His Excellency the Governor in Council will no doubt communicate his views to the Government of India.

32. In reply to the above-mentioned reference, the Bombay Government stated it as their opinion that the existing law was not adequate to prevent the ingress to British India of bands of Heratee or other foreign vagrants; and that there was no reason why such bands should not be specially dealt with by legislation, and their imprisonment or deportation and their condign punishment on return to British India duly legalised.

The Bombay Government added that the exaction of hard labour from these vagrants when in confinement should also be provided for in the proposed law.

33. On a full consideration of the Bombay Government's proposals, the decision of the Governor General in Council was against any legislation of the kind suggested. The Bombay Government were informed that the necessity for a law of this kind against a particular class required to be clearly established by proof that the peculiar needs and circumstances which required the law counterbalanced the general objections which existed against special additional legislation of this nature wherever it could be avoided. The Government of India remarked that they were "not "at present in possession of information sufficient to shew "exactly in what manner the existing provisions of the "law, especially those which empower security for good "behaviour to be required from persons of a suspicious "character, have been ascertained by experiment to be "inadequate, or to settle precisely where the defects exist, "and by what additional measures and powers (over and "above those already in the hands of the executive) these "defects can best be remedied". The Government of India added—

The procedure suggested by your letter on the analogy of the Act for European vagrants would probably require some considerable modifications

to suit the case of Heratee vagabonds. I am therefore to request that, if after full consideration of the exigencies of the case, and of the present state of the law applicable to it, His Excellency the Governor in Council considers that a special Act is altogether necessary, the proposal for legislation may be submitted with full details of the objects and reasons and of the form which should be given to the enactment.

34. The Bombay Government did not reply to the above orders. It however appeared from their Judicial Proceedings for May 1874, No. 24, that their final decision was not to take any further steps in the matter.

35. In May 1875 the Government of Madras submitted a collection of papers relating to certain gangs of Heratees "who were escorted from Mysore through the "Bellary District, and delivered to the Hyderabad authori- "ties". The several gangs were said to have quarrelled among themselves, and some of the men were severely wounded in the scuffle. It was also reported that in their route the men were with great difficulty prevented from extorting supplies from the villagers. The Madras Government requested the Nizam's Government to co-operate effectively with the British authorities in carrying out the instructions of the Supreme Government "that these dis- "orderly wandering bands should be compelled to return "to their own country, under police surveillance, by the "nearest route, and not permitted to range the country".

36. About this time the Bombay Government also* submitted copies of correspondence with the Hyderabad authorities and with officers in the Madras Presidency regarding a gang of about 300 Heratees (very probably the same as the foreign bands referred to in the papers received from the Madras Government) whom the Hyderabad authorities wished to forward into the Sholapur District. The First Assistant Resident at Hyderabad described the men as "professional thieves, though ostensibly sellers of mock "gems and pearls". Speaking of the Heratee gang when passing through the Madras districts, the Magistrate of North Arcot said that their behaviour was most violent and daring; and that they had with them a large number of horses and ponies, which they regularly turned loose to graze in the fields; and if the unfortunate owners of the

* Bombay Government's letter dated 28th May 1875, No. 3127.

crops attempted to drive off the animals, he was at once assaulted by the Heratees.

He added—

At each halt and in every village they pass through the gang broke up into parties and visited every house. The men stood outside, twirling long sticks, and keeping off the villagers, while their females forced their way into the houses, and annoyed the inmates in all kinds of ways, always with an eye to plunder. In one instance that has been reported they deliberately broke the lock and entered a house, the owners of which were absent.

37. The Inspector General of Police, Madras, gave the following account of some of these men and women :

(4.) These Heratee gangs do not commit robberies and dacoities on a large scale in this Presidency, probably because being foreigners they know that they would be at once detected ; but the women of the gang are expert thieves ; and after the departure of a gang from a town or village it is not unusual to hear of property being missed. Wherever they go they are a nuisance and a terror to the people upon whom they deliberately prey in various ways. The women dance before a house in no very decent fashion, and then thrust their mock stones (bits of coloured glass) and pearls into the hands of the female spectators, from whom they absolutely refuse to take them back, demanding an exorbitant price for an article worth about an anna. In this way they screw a good deal of money out of the villagers, who are terrified into acquiescence by their violent manner. Another dodge is this : A Heratee goes to a bazaar to buy ghee, suddenly dips his hand into the pot, takes out some ghee in his palm, puts his tongue to it, declares it is bad, and puts it back into the pot, the whole contents of which are thereby polluted for Hindus. When the bazaar man complains of this, the Heratee offers to take the pot of ghee off his hands at a low figure. This sort of rough humour is, of course, not much relished by the victims who have to pay for it. The Heratees systematically tresspass on the standing crops with their ponies, and violently resist any attempt to impound their animals. * * *

38. Several other representations were received from the Governments of Madras and Bombay on the subject of the deportation of Asiatic vagrants to their own country. With respect to a band of men professing to be inhabitants of Sialkot, whom the Bombay Government proposed to send to Allahabad *en route* to their homes, that Government were* informed that the provisions of Sections 3 and 4 of Act III. of 1864 did not apply to British subjects, and that no expense should be incurred on their account. With reference

* Home Department letter No. 1695, dated 7th October 1875.

to certain proceedings taken in Madras in regard to some Heratee vagrants, the Madras Government were informed in a letter dated the 7th October 1875 that in cases of this kind it would be well for such gangs to be conveyed by railway to the terminus nearest their homes, and thus avoid causing trouble to any authority, Foreign or British, through whose territories the vagrants might pass. It was added that it might sometimes be unavoidable to send such gangs through Native States, but that, "whenever practicable, it is preferable "to deport them entirely through British territory; for as "soon as they enter Native territory, any legal hold on them "ceases, and Native States are not always able to control "formidable bands of unruly foreigners".

39. In August 1877 the Government of the North-Western Provinces and Oudh submitted copies of reports from the Magistrate of Banda regarding a gang of Beluchis found wandering in the district possessed of several passports and arms licenses granted by certain officers of the Central Provinces, &c., about the middle of the year 1876. The Magistrate of Banda considered them to be petty plunderers, whom it would be very impolitic to allow to wander about the country. The Magistrate wrote as follows under date the 22nd July 1877 :

(4.) On the 17th and 18th I received numerous complaints of their demanding money and food from zemindars and buniahs, and using threats if their demands were not complied with. The people generally became disturbed, and various absurd rumours got afloat. Some said they were Russian spies, and others would have it that they were the remnant of the Russian Army defeated and driven out of Amrenia. * * * * * *

* * * * * * *

(7.) The next morning they went about the city, and had collected some money from the inhabitants, when I was informed that they had gone to the house of Sham Karan, the principal Seth of the city, and had demanded with threats food for 300 men, stating that they had obtained Rs. 125 from me, the Collector.

* * * * * *

40. It appeared at this time from certain papers sent by the Government of the North-Western Provinces and Oudh that the Local Government had ordered that the band of Beluchis "should be allowed to proceed in "two or more parties by the selected route to the Central

"Provinces, *viâ* Nowgong, without arms, and under police "surveillance, while in British territory". On receipt of the above papers the Government of India called upon the Chief Commissioner of the Central Provinces for an explanation of the circumstances under which passports and arms licenses had been given to the Beluchis while travelling in those Provinces. As regards the foreigners themselves, who had been permitted by the Government of the North-Western Provinces to return to the Central Provinces, the Government of India wrote —*

* Letter No. 1672—74, dated 6th September 1877.

(2.) The treatment of the Beluchi gang will now depend upon their own behaviour. If they are orderly and well behaved, and earn their own livelihood, they may be left to themselves, with the warning that any misconduct on their part will lead to their being deported from British India under the provisions of Act III. of 1864.

41. In submitting the required explanation,* the Chief Commissioner of the Central Provinces reported having now again forbidden the grant of passports to foreign vagrants, and expressed a hope that no injudicious grant of licenses would hereafter occur in those Provinces. As to the treatment of the Beluchis sent back by the North-Western Provinces Government, the Chief Commissioner wrote as follows :

* Letter No. 4428—165, dated 3rd November 1877.

(3.) The question is—What should be done with this gang when it returns? It is now clear that the members prey upon the people and extort money by threats. The Chief Commissioner would not therefore permit them to wander freely all over the Province, but if merely removed and passed *en route* to their own country through foreign territory, they would probably before long re-appear in some other Province. The only satisfactory arrangement with a gang of this kind is to deport them by a particular route, and to intimate to neighbouring authorities the course that has been adopted. The Chief Commissioner proposes hereafter to adopt this course with any gang of wandering foreigners who misconduct themselves in any of the districts of these Provinces under the instructions contained in paragraph 2 of your letter under reply.

42. The course proposed above by the Chief Commissioner of the Central Provinces was approved* by the Government of India in the Home Department, with the remark that it was of course understood that "if any distinct offence

* Orders dated 21st December 1877.

"is brought home to any member of this or another gang, "the offender will be dealt with according to law and separa- "tely deported afterwards".

43. Since the issue of the above-mentioned orders to the Chief Commissioner of the Central Provinces several communications have been received from the Government of Bombay and the Commissioner in Sind on the subject of the disposal of foreign vagrants. On the 26th March last the Bombay Government reported by telegram that 107 vagrants had already arrived at Rohri, in Sind, and that 100 more were expected, these vagrants having been sent into Sind from the Central and the North-Western Provinces. The Bombay Government added that the vagrants, according to the Commissioner's report, were desirous to be allowed to re-commence their tour through Central India. The Bombay Government further said that the vagrants were natives of Seistan; that in the Commissioner's opinion it would be impossible to march them to Seistan; and that it would be useless to send them merely to some place beyond the British frontier, as they would be sure to return. Telegraphic orders were then addressed to Government of Bombay to the effect that the vagrants must on no account be permitted to re-commence their wandering in Central India, "where they prey upon peaceful people"; but that an order should be recorded by the Local Government directing the men to remove themselves from British India. It was added that the Agent to the Governor General in Beluchistan would be requested to move the Chief to prevent the return of the men.

44. In communicating* to the Government of Bombay the purport of the above-mentioned telegram by letter it was suggested that the Commissioner in Sind could, if necessary, communicate direct with the Agent, Governor General, in Beluchistan. A copy of the correspondence with the Government of the North-Western Provinces and the Chief Commissioner of the Central Provinces in regard to the Beluchi gang that was found wandering about the Banda District was also sent to the Bombay Government, with the remark that possibly these Beluchis formed a part of the gang sent on to Sind, and that numerous complaints had

* Home Department No. 801, dated 17th April 1878.

been received from various quarters of the misconduct of the men in the places through which they passed. The Government of India concluded by saying that "it is absolutely "necessary to deport these people, and to put the law in "motion against them if they again attempt to enter British "India". A copy of the letter addressed to the Bombay Government was sent to the Foreign Department for the issue of the necessary orders to the Agent, Governor General.

45. On the 30th May last the Government of Bombay sent for the consideration of the Government of India copies of two letters from the Commissioner in Sind dated the 24th of February and 14th of May last, respectively, on the subject of allowing large gangs of foreign vagrants to be collected together and sent into a province with which they had no concern.

In his letter of the 14th February 1878 the Commissioner in Sind dwelt largely on the uselessness of deporting these men at considerable expense, as they were sure to return by some route or other. He wrote—

(5.) Experience, therefore, shows that the difficulty is a recurring one, and the costly and clumsy process of gang deportation does not provide a proper remedy. The fact also that these vagrants travel in all parts of India suggests that whatever orders are issued should be issued by the Government of India for general guidance. * * * The first point seems to me to be their separation, for when once the gang is suffered to be massed together and escorted by the police, it is impossible for one district to act differently from another; and a force of police from the very South to the very North or the East to the West of India is moved away from its proper duties to control their movements. I would venture to suggest that the gangs should never be allowed to collect together; that on their approach into any district the greatest severity which the law permits should be used towards their leaders; that any members of the gang who commit offences should be promptly punished, and, if practicable, removed beyond the possibility of rejoining the gang. * * * If the vagrants are, as in most instances is the case, foreign vagrants, a few of them, and not the whole gang, might be deported, and photographs of the men so deported should be taken, and intimation given to the Inspectors General or Commissioners of Police throughout India. Should the men so deported re-appear, the photographs and descriptive rolls would enable them to be indentified and dealt with under Act III. of 1864.

46. In his letter of the 14th May 1878 the Commissioner in Sind referred to a gang of vagrants ordered by the

Bombay Government, under Section 3 of Act III. of 1864, to remove themselves from British India. After explaining the action he had taken in giving effect to the wishes of the Bombay Government in respect to this gang, Mr. Melvill made some general observations on the subject of the treatment of foreign vagrants. Some of these observations were based partly on a mistaken impression that the practice of sending vagrants to Sind was founded on the belief that they were the inhabitants of Sind; whereas in reality they were deported to Sind whenever it happened to be the most convenient route to the native places of the persons concerned. Mr. Melvill added—

(4.) I cannot exaggerate the inconvenience which the guarding of this large gang for the last two or three months has caused, and I am apprehensive that owing to the length of our frontier and its want of police, especially along the desert of the Upper Sind frontier district, the gang will elude the vigilance of the police, and escape back into India. I would earnestly beg that the attention of the Government of India be called to the subject, so that each Government or Administration in India may adopt a uniform line of conduct, and not merely divest itself of further responsibility in breaking up such gangs by massing them together, and sending them at infinite cost of trouble and money into the adjoining province.

47. On a subsequent reference from the Bombay Government about the return to Sind of some of the vagrants deported to Beluchistan, the Foreign Department ordered the Governor General's Agent to co-operate with the Sind authorities in preventing the return of deported Beluchis; and received a telegram from that officer saying that the local authorities were taking the necessary action in the matter.

48. In the police report of the Central Provinces for the year 1877 the Government of India noticed remarks about a number of Heratees wandering about those Provinces and preying upon the villagers. With reference to those remarks, the Government of India passed the following orders to the Chief Commissioner in a letter dated the 28th June last:

(3.) The only point which calls for any special remarks from the Government of India relates to the circumstance that a gang or gangs of Heratees have been wandering about the Raipur and other districts, levying black-mail from the villagers. Stringent measures should be adopted for the treatment of these foreigners in the districts

under your control when they are found to be habitually preying upon or molesting the people. The district authorities should be prepared to arrest these marauders if they violate the law, or cheat or plunder British subjects. The sentence passed upon the man who killed the leader of a gang when attempting to enter a village in the Raipur District in spite of the opposition of himself and other villagers may or may not have been right; but at the same time it may seem to the people rather hard that they should be exposed to the depredations of these vagrants, and should be punished for trying to keep them out of their villages.

49. The extracts from Sir Mark Cubbon's letter and from other papers given at the commencement of this Resolution shew what sort of account the foreign gangs gave of themselves when they first came to the notice of the Home Department. Since then bands of foreign vagrants have over and over again attracted the attention of the Government of India and of the Local Governments. As to the harm which the foreign vagrants inflict on the country there can be no manner of doubt. They cannot plunder and annoy people in the Punjab and the North-Western Provinces, where the population is thick, and individuals are sturdy and self-reliant; but they worry and annoy people in Bengal, Central India and other places whenever they can get there, and extort money and supplies from the villagers whenever they can possibly do so. Hardly a year passes but these gangs visit some part of the Central Provinces.

50. Of course members of such gangs can be, and they often are, punished for their misdeeds under the law. But villagers find difficulty in identifying the aggressors; and, moreover, these foreigners gain their ends by intimidation as well by actual violence. Formerly there was a difficulty in dealing with a band, some of the ringleaders of which had already been punished and imprisoned, while the rest were hanging about till the prisoners got out. Under the present law,* however, it might be possible to proceed against the members of a gang of this kind, if they had no ostensible means of subsistence.

* Sections 504—506 of the New Criminal Procedure Code (X. of 1872).

51. In a letter dated the 17th August 1878 the Punjab Government remonstrated against the cost incurred in that

Province on account of vagrants deported by other Local Governments. The order issued on the Punjab Government's reference was this—

(2.) In reply, I am to invite the attention of His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor to Rule VI. of the Provincial Service Rules circulated with Financial Resolution No. 1709, dated the 22nd March 1877, which runs—'A Local Government must accept without remonstrance any charge which would, under the system in force before 1871-72, have been recorded under any of the transferred heads of Account in the accounts of its Presidency or Province, and must not raise objections on such grounds as that the charge has originated outside the Presidency or Province'. This rule would appear to apply exactly to the present case, and it is clear that the charges incurred in the Punjab in this instance would, under the previous system, have been recorded under the head of 'Police' in that Province. Under these circumstances His Excellency the Governor General in Council regrets that he is unable to recognize any claim to refunds on this account, either from the Central Provinces or any other Province. The whole Act is in force only in British Burma, having been extended to that Province by Home Department Notification No. 1261, dated 1st September 1869.

52. The immediate cause which has given rise to the present discussion was the representation of the Commissioner in Sind protesting against gang after gang of these vagrants being passed on to that Province. But two subsequent letters* from the Bombay Government shew that after all a frontier province is the only province that can adequately, and without excessive expense and trouble, deal with these vagrant gangs.

* Dated 1st July and 29th July 1878.

53. The Bombay Government do not seem to require any special orders. But it is deemed useful to circulate for the information and guidance of all the Local Governments and Administrations and the officers subordinate to them general instructions in respect of the treatment of foreign vagrants while in British India, as the Government of India are not prepared to undertake any special legislation on the subject of gipsy gangs.

Those instructions are—

(1) that the frontier provinces are responsible that such gangs are not allowed to pass into India;

(2) that in any province where such a gang commit any depredations no effort should be spared in bringing the chief offenders to justice for specific crimes, or treating them, as the law allows, under Chapter XXXIII. of the Criminal Procedure Code ;

(3) that on no account should such gangs be passed on under police or other guards into other districts or other provinces; but if deportation is deemed necessary, it should be carried out at once under Act III. of 1864, full lists and descriptive rolls of the deported persons, with photographs of the leaders, being taken and forwarded to the frontier Governments ; and

(4) that on no account should safe-conduct passes or licenses to carry arms be granted to gangs of this type, or to any members of such gang; and that if arms or ammunition are found in their possession, they should be at once disarmed in accordance with the provisions of the Arms Act.

54. It is quite true that in some cases these people possess money and jewels, but none the less do they harry the country and live on the people. And therefore they must, when they conduct themselves as marauders, be treated accordingly. Careful effort on the part of the magisterial and police authorities to enforce the existing law against the foreign gangs will in course of time deter them from these predatory incursions into quiet Indian provinces. The fact that in many of our British provinces the people possess few weapons, and are unfitted by nature and habit to resist, with any degree of success, the aggressive proceedings of gangs of these Asiatic foreigners, renders it the more incumbent on magisterial and police officers to make every effort to protect the people.

ORDER.—Ordered, that a copy of this Resolution be circulated to the Local Governments and Administrations

for information and guidance, and to the Foreign Department for information and for communication to political and other authorities subordinate to that Department.

Ordered also, that a collection of the most important papers on the subject be published in the form of a Selection from the Records of the Government of India with the Resolution attached to it.

(True Extract.)

C. BERNARD,

Offg. Secretary to the Govt. of India.

VAGRANT BANDS OF FOREIGNERS.

No. 443, dated Fort St. George, the 15th April 1856.

From—T. Pycroft, Esq., Chief Secretary to the Government of Fort St. George.

To—The Secretary to the Government of India, Home Dept.

From Magistrate of Salem dated 7th March 1856.
Order thereon dated 11th March 1856, No. 244.
To the Commissioner of Mysore dated 13th March 1856, No. 256.
From Chief Magistrate dated 12th March 1856.
Extract Minutes of Cons. dated 14th March 1856, No. 262.
From the Commissioner of Mysore dated 17th March 1856.
Order thereon dated 26th March 1856, No. 307.
From Magistrate of Canara dated 20th March 1856.
From Chief Magistrate dated 7th April 1856.
Extract Minutes of Cons. dated 15th April 1856, No. 373.

I am directed by the Right Honourable the Governor in Council to forward, for submission to the Government of India, the accompanying copies of correspondence relative to a large party of Iranees who have been travelling through this Presidency.

2. The first intimation received by the Madras Government of the movements of these men was contained in a letter from the Magistrate of Salem, under date the 9th ultimo, in which he reported their entrance into his district from Mangalore *viâ* Mysore, and the measures taken by him for passing them on to Madras, and for protecting the people of the country from any disturbances which this body of men might be disposed to commit. He also submitted transcripts of communications from the Mysore authorities relative to arrangements made by them with a similar object.

3. On the receipt of this communication this Government issued instructions to the Chief Magistrate and Superintendent of Police to examine the Iranees on their arrival at Madras, and to report what account they gave of themselves, their object, place of destination, means of subsistence, &c., and whether they were provided with passports. The Chief Magistrate has accordingly furnished a full report upon them; and it will be seen from the Extract Minutes of Consultation dated the 15th instant that, in accordance with his suggestions, the Right Honourable the Governor in Council has resolved to send the Iranees (Persians) referred to through the Northern parts of the Bombay districts so as to be passed through Sind to Affghanistan, and that they should be started hence in four or five detachments under the surveillance of the civil authorities by routes laid down for them.

4. The service required of the guard is to aid the civil power in preventing any breach of the peace. The head of police will also proceed with his peons till he shall be met by the North Arcot peons. It will be the duty of the head of police to call upon the Native officer to aid him if he should see occasion for such assistance. I may also mention that the head of police of Ossoor has been directed to provide for the support of the Iranees, that there may be no excuse for their attempting to wander into any of the villages by the way.

5. I beg that your force may be sent to Ossoor with the least possible delay to march from thence *viâ* Kistnagherry and Vaniembady.

6. The head of police will take care not to return the arms referred to in paragraph 2 of this letter. They will be retained in charge of the police, and the Iranees will be informed that their demand to have the arms returned cannot be complied with before they reach Madras.

7. A copy of this letter will this day be forwarded to the Government for their information.

Dated Nundydroog, the 29th February 1856.

From—Major G. Haines, Superintendent of the Bangalore Division.

To—The Magistrate of Salem.

Referring to my letter giving intimation of the passage through your district of a party of wandering Iranees, I have the honour to inform you that they will arrive at Bangalore to-morrow and will be forwarded as early as practicable to Ossoor. I have directed the Amildar of Bangalore to give notice to the Tahsildar of Ossoor of their approach.

2. The party consists of 126 individuals, *i. e.*, 56 men and 70 women and children, besides a number of tattoos—about 110 as I am informed.

3. The Commissioner having received reports of the unruly conduct and plundering propensities of these vagabonds during their passage through the Chittledroog Division has deemed it advisable to order them to be disarmed on their passing through the cantonment of Bangalore, as well as to have their baggage searched, in order to ascertain whether or no they have the means of paying for their supplies as they pass through the country. The Commissioner has ordered this proceeding both because the violent conduct of these people in Mysore justifies it, and also to render them more manageable for your police on their passage through your district.

List of arms belonging to the Iranees.

8 large firelocks.
1 large axe.
1 pistol.
2 half swords.
8 knives.
1 knife with brass chain.
1 ditto ditto.
2 knives without chain.
5 pistol balls.
1 firelock ball.
4 knives belonging to Jamadar Goolam Ally.
4 ditto Meerajah up Khan.

37

Order thereon No. 244, dated Fort St. George, the 11th March 1856.

RESOLVED that a copy of the above letter and its enclosure be furnished to the Chief Magistrate and Superintendent of Police, and that he be requested on the arrival of the Iranees at Madras to examine them and to report to Government what account they have to give of themselves, their object, place of destination, means of subsistence, &c. He will also state whether they are provided with passports.

The Magistrate of Canara will also be called upon to state why he made no report to Government regarding these men, and to give now full explanation of their entrance into the country, &c., &c.

No. 256, dated Fort St. George, the 13th March 1856.

From—T. PYCROFT, Esq., Chief Secretary to the Government of Fort St. George.

To—The Commissioner for the Government of the Territories of His Highness the Rajah of Mysore.

I AM directed by the Right Honourable the Governor in Council to forward to you the accompanying copy of a letter, with its enclosure, from the Magistrate of Salem, reporting the entrance into his district of a large party of (alleged) Iranees who appear to have come into the Province of Salem from Mangalore *viâ* Mysore. I have to request that you would be so good as to inform this Government under what circumstances these people entered the Mysore territory, what measures were then taken in respect to them, what was their conduct in their passage through the country, and what account they then gave of themselves and of the object of their journey and its destination.

No. 22, dated Madras, the 12th March 1856.

From—E. F. Elliot, Esq., Chief Magistrate and Superintendent of Police.

To—The Chief Secretary to the Government of Fort St. George.

With reference to the extract from Minutes of Consultation,* I have the honour to state that, in reply to a letter from the Magistrate of Chingleput, under date the 3rd instant, with copy of a communication from the Acting Magistrate of Canara annexed, giving notice of the approach of the party of foreigners, I requested Mr. Shubrick to forward the party towards Nellore without touching the Presidency, because I understood from the correspondence that it had already been decided to pass these people through our territories to the Bengal frontier. On the receipt of the orders of Government this morning I sent them forthwith to the Magistrate of Chingleput.

* Judicial Department dated 11th instant, No. 244.

Parties from the wandering tribes of Persia frequently visit India and cause great uneasiness to the inhabitants. In October 1842 a large party of Persians found their way to the Neilgherries, which I brought to the notice of the Magistrate of Malabar, as will be seen by his letter to Government under date the 27th of October. Again, in November 1846, I forwarded to Government a letter from the Head Assistant Magistrate of Guntoor reporting the conduct of a party of Persians who had landed at Masulipatam, on which occasion I addressed Government at length on the 19th January 1846. These people were brought to the Presidency, and, notwithstanding the precautions taken, they contrived to cause much alarm by their daring conduct. They entered the houses of the inhabitants by way of begging, but frequently used threats to extort money. I beg leave respectfully to suggest that the party now approaching may be ordered to halt at Poonamallee and placed in the fort under a military guard; if necessary, the principal men only should be sent into Madras for examination, though there is in truth no use in this, for their stories never vary. It is to be regretted that the Acting Magistrate of Canara permitted them to enter the districts. The parties in 1846 were in possession of a very large quantity of jewels, some of great value, belonging to various countries, both Muhammadan and Hindu, which they could only have obtained by plunder, and many of which they sold at the Presidency.

No. 74, dated Chingleput, the 3rd March 1856.

From—C. J. Shubrick, Esq., Magistrate of Chingleput.

To—The Chief Magistrate and Superintendent of Police, Madras.

I have the honour to inform you that the party of the Iranees referred to in the accompanying copy of a letter from the Acting Magistrate of Canara, who were forwarded to this district under escort

by the Magistrate of North Arcot, have been ordered to be delivered into your charge when within the limits of Madras.

Dated Oodassee, the 15th January 1856.

From—W. Fisher, Esq., Acting Magistrate of Canara.

To—The Superintendent of the Nagur Division.

Men	...	17
Women	...	17
Children	...	23
Total	...	57

A party of Iranees (men, women and children), as per margin, arrived lately at Sirey with rahdaries from Bombay officers, and have been sent down to the Coast by the Joint Magistrate as they professed to be going to Mecca. Their object, it is quite clear, is to wander over the country begging; and as their number and appearance are likely to alarm the people here, I have sent them towards their present destination (Calcutta) by the most direct route under an escort sufficient to give the people confidence and prevent these men from extorting alms.

The Tahsildar of this talook will write to Theerthally Mamlutdar regarding them, and the people of this district will accompany them, if necessary, as far as Theerthally.

Extract from the Minutes of Consultation No. 262, *dated the* 14*th March* 1856.

Read the following letter from the Chief Magistrate:

From E. F. Elliot, Esq., Chief Magistrate and Superintendent of Police, to the Chief Secy. to the Govt. of Fort St. George,— No. 22, dated Madras, the 12th March 1856.—*Vide* page 6.

Resolved that copy of the above letter be furnished to the Magistrate of Chingleput, who will cause the party of foreigners in question to halt at Poonamallee, and will detain them there in the fort under a military guard if necessary, and with such precautions as shall prevent their being an annoyance to the inhabitants until the orders of Government be passed as to their further treatment. The Chief Magistrate, in communication with the Magistrate of Chingleput, will arrange for a few of the leaders of the party being sent on to Madras for examination, and will report what account they have to give of themselves and what course it would be best to pursue with them.

No. 7, dated Nundydroog, the 17th March 1856.

From—Lieutenant-General M. Cubbon, Commissioner for the Government of the Territories of His Highness the Rajah of Mysore.

To—The Chief Secretary to Government of Fort St. George.

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 13th instant on the subject of the large band of vagabond Iranees who have lately passed from Canara through Mysore on their way to Madras.

2. In order that the Right Honourable the Governor in Council may be fully acquainted with all I know concerning them I have caused copies to be made of all the correspondence that took place between this office and the various subordinate authorities in Mysore during their progress through the country. These letters I have now the honour to enclose, and I trust that His Lordship will agree with me in thinking that the authorities on the Coast and the Frontier should be cautious in permitting the entry into peaceable districts of bands of armed ruffians whom the police, as at present constituted, are altogether incapable of keeping in order.

No. 11, dated Shimogah, the 19th January 1856.

From—J. F. PORTER, Esq., Superintendent, Nagur Division.

To—The Secretary to the Commissioner for the Government of the Territories of His Highness the Rajah of Mysore.

I BEG to forward, for the information of the Commissioner, copy of a letter received from the Acting Magistrate of Canara regarding a party of Iranees who are travelling about the country. I have given directions to the amildars of the talooks through which they will pass to furnish a guard of peons sufficient to prevent any disturbance. As their statement about their destination appears very contradictory, I think it better to forward them to Bengalore in the first instance.

Dated Oodassee, the 15th January 1856.

From—W. FISHER, Esq., Acting Magistrate of Canara.

To—The Superintendent, Nagur Division.

Men	17
Women	17
Children	23
	57

A PARTY of Iranees (men, women, and children), as per margin, arrived lately at Sircy with rahdaries from Bombay officers, and have been sent down to the Coast by the Joint Magistrate, as they professed to be going to Mecca. Their object, it is quite clear, is to wander over the country begging; and as their numbers and appearance are likely to alarm the people here, I have sent them towards their present destination (Calcutta) by the most direct route under an escort sufficient to give the people confidence, and prevent these men from extorting alms.

The Tahsildar of this talook will write to the Theerthally Mamlutdar regarding them, and the peons of this district will accompany them, if necessary, as far as Theerthally.

No. 55, dated Tippatoor, the 18th February 1856.

From—R. S. Dobbs, Esq., Superintendent, Chittledroog Division.

To—The Secretary to the Commissioner for the Government of the Territories of His Highness the Rajah of Mysore.

On my arrival here this morning I was beset by a crowd who complained that the bazaar and surrounding villages had been plundered yesterday by a large gang of robbers; that besides ghee, rice, fowl, and other articles of food, they had stolen a bag of Rs. 97 from one person, a handkerchief from another, and a cloth from a sepoy. The robbers are the Iranees who arrived at this place yesterday from Nagur, in all 160 individuals. I proceeded at once to their encampment accompanied by the amildar and complainants to enquire into the complaints.

The Iranees denied the charges of robbery, but reasoned that, having left their own country on account of famine and obtained passports authorizing their begging, they had a right to be fed by the villagers, and required three times as much food as the poor wretches of this country; that they did not possess a rupee and could not subsist on less than twenty rupees each day; that no Iranee could exist on less than one seer of the finest rice, a seer of the best wheat, and a seer of ghee, besides a sheep of the best sort for every four men and individuals; also a seer of Bengal gram for each pony (72 in all).

If these plundering beggars were not under the protection of an escort, and the inhabitants were not afraid of the Government, there would be many scenes of violence and blood. These sturdy vagrants are now in the heart of the Mysore territory, and I have received the Commissioner's instructions to send an escort with them to Bangalore. I cannot, however, permit the present system of plunder and terror to continue which excites just discontent amongst the people and brings dishonour on the British name. I have ordered the Iranees to be fed at the expense of Government and through Government agency, and appointed a goomashtah to accompany the party and keep a daily account, which arrangement will, I trust, meet with the Commissioner's approval.

As the duffadar (who was beaten by them) and peons forming the escort have no control over these lawless and reckless bands, I have ordered a jemadar and twelve sowars to escort the party to Bangalore.

No. 56, dated Mayasumdrum, the 21st February 1856.

From—R. S. Dobbs, Esq., Superintendent, Chittledroog Division.

To—The Secretary to the Commissioner for the Government of the Territories of His Highness the Rajah of Mysore.

I have the honour, with reference to my letter of the 18th instant, to forward, for the further information of the Commissioner, copy of an

urzee from the Amildar of Honnawally reporting that on his attempting to carry out my orders (communicated personally to the Iranees) by examining the baggage of the individuals accused of stealing Rs. 97, the band loaded ten or fifteen matchlocks (previously concealed) with powder and ball, and marched off in a threatening manner. It is the opinion of intelligent Mussulmen about me that these people correspond to the Lumbanees of this country; they are at all events a very low class, and have been treated with a consideration hitherto which can be accounted for only on the supposition that they have never been inspected personally by European Magistrates.

No. 140, dated Nundydroog, the 26th February 1856.

From—Lieutenant-General M. CUBBON, Commissioner for the Government of the Territories of His Highness the Rajah of Mysore.

To—The Superintendent of Police, Bangalore.

I HAVE the honour to forward copy of a letter, with its enclosure, received from the Superintendent of Chittledroog, having reference to the passage through this territory of a party of Iranees numbering, in women and children, about 160. They are furnished with passports by the Bombay authorities as being on their way, I think, to Calcutta *viâ* Madras, and under this pass have been forwarded by the Magistrate of Canara.

Since entering the Chittledroog Division they have been guilty of acts of violence, plundering villagers of supplies, and setting the police guard which accompanied them at defiance, so as to render it necessary for a guard of sillahdars to be placed over them.

It having been arranged that the party should proceed to Madras, *viâ* Ossoor, and as the Magistrate of that District may not have the means at his disposal for controlling these vagabonds, I deem it expedient that they should be disarmed at Bangalore on their arrival there, and I request you will take measures to carry this into effect.

It may be prudent for you to call upon the Officer Commanding Bangalore for military aid to effect this purpose. I therefore request you will do so. The party may be expected to arrive at Bangalore on the 27th or 28th instant. The Amildar has been directed to have the party conducted direct to your office.

After the party has been disarmed, I deem it expedient that their baggage and persons should be searched, in order to ascertain whether they have not the means of paying for their own supplies on the road.

This being done I request you will hand the whole party over to the Amildar of Bangalore, who has been instructed to forward them on their journey.

No. 146, dated Bangalore, the 4th March 1856.

From—Captain E. E. MILLER, Superintendent of Police, Bangalore.

To—The Secretary to the Commissioner for the Government of the Territories of His Highness the Rajah of Mysore.

WITH reference to letter* from the Commissioner of Mysore, I have the honour for his information to state that, in accordance with the instructions therein contained, the Iranees were disarmed and searched here on the 29th ultimo, and the whole party made over to the Amildar of Bangalore the same day. They did not appear to possess much money or property of any kind except a large number of cooking utensils of different descriptions; their women and children wore ornaments of shells and beads with rupee, eight and four-anna pieces alternately strung together. Several of the men had silver chains or girdles ("kurdora") round their waists, but not of any great value. I consider, however, that in the aggregate they had sufficient property to pay for their own expenses, provided they had been compelled to dispose of their tattoos, about 80 in number. The matchlocks, knives and daggers taken from the Iranees were made over to the Amildar of Bangalore.

* No. 140, dated 26th February 1856.

Order thereon No. 307, dated Fort St. George, the 26th March 1856.

ORDERED, that the above letter and its enclosures—to be returned—be forwarded to the Chief Magistrate for his information in reference to Extract, Minutes of Consultation, 11th and 14th instant, Nos. 244 and 262.

T. PYCROFT,
Chief Secretary to the Govt. of Madras.

No. 16, dated Dharmastalla, the 20th March 1856.

From—W. FISHER, Esq., Acting Magistrate of Canara.

To—The Chief Secretary to the Government of Fort St. George.

IN acknowledging the recept of Extract from Minutes of Consultation dated 11th March 1856 directing me to state why no report was made to Government regarding certain Iranees passed through a portion of this district, and calling for a full explanation of their entry into the country, I have the honour to submit the following statement for the information of Government. In December last a party of Iranees, consisting of men, women and children, entered North Canara from Darwar with passes from the Bombay local authorities in their possession, and were consequently permitted to proceed to the

Coast in charge of a party of peons from the Joint Magistrate's Division for the purpose of embarking for Mecca.

2. It was impossible to obtain shipping for Mecca in this district, and doubtful whether the applicants intended to go there; and as I did not consider it prudent to allow these people to march further South as they wished to do, I arranged to send them under escort by the most direct route towards Calcutta—the point to which, under the above circumstances, they wished to proceed on their return to their own country. With this view I addressed the Superintendent of the Nagur Division, and forwarded the party from Oodassee (where I happened to be on their arrival) *viâ* the Agumby Ghaut.

3. Although I did not deem it right to permit so large a number of strangers to wander through the country as they pleased, it did not appear to me to be necessary to report their arrival to Government after they had been allowed to proceed so far through British territory, particularly as the presence of their wives and children was in some way a guarantee for their conduct, and rendered the apprehension of any of them easy, should they be guilty of any offence against person or property. In placing these people under the immediate eye of the police during the rest of their journey, and thus preventing their profiting by the mistaken charity of the Indian public which had most probably induced them to travel so far through the British territory, I considered that I had done all this case called for, whilst the arrangement was certain at the same time to deter similar characters from visiting this part of the country in future; and these objects attained, it did not appear to me that further steps were necessary.

No. 34, dated Madras, the 7th April 1856.

From—E. F. ELLIOT, Esq., Chief Magistrate and Superintendent of Police, Madras.

To—The Chief Secretary to the Government of Fort St. George.

WITH reference to Extract, Minutes of Consultation,* I have the honour to state, for the information of the Right Honourable the Governor in Council, that the Magistrate of Chingleput reported the arrival of the Persians at Poonamallee on the 1st instant, and at my request the four headmen or jemadars were sent to Madras on the following day. Herewith I forward their statements. They were examined separately and cross-examined closely, and there is no reason whatever to doubt the fact that they left their own country under severe pressure, principally caused by a famine, and that they wandered to India, like many others of their countrymen, with the object of begging and hoarding. They have petitions in the English language setting forth their misery and hardships and craving charity. From the

* Judicial Department, of 11th ultimo, No. 244.

endorsement on some of these documents it is shown that in many places they were very successful. It will be observed that whilst the party from Shiraz entered India, *viâ* Peshawar and the Punjab, the other from Kirman came *viâ* Candahar to Mooltan, and that the two parties did not meet again for nearly three years till they reached Shimoga; both parties contrived to obtain passports from the authorities *en route* which are forwarded for inspection. They denied that they even represented it their intention to proceed to Mecca, but proposed to visit all the principal stations South before they turned their steps to Calcutta or Bengal Proper. Ahmud Beg, one of the headmen, says that a brother of his is in the Bengal Provinces with an equally numerous party. The man named Alli Uskur alluded to in the statements as a Mowlavi, who joined them at Delhi, was immediately recognized at this office as a servant of a horse-dealer (Hossain Zall Beg) who visited Madras five or six years ago. At first he denied ever having been at Madras, but admitted he had been at Bangalore. Subsequently he acknowledged that he had been here for a few days; he states that he was afterwards in the service of one Mahomed Saduck, a printer at Bombay, from whence he carried books to Lucknow for sale. After which he entered the service of Mowlavi Mahomed Baukir at Delhi, where he met his countrymen from Shiraz, who prevailed on him to join them as a teacher to their children, for which they promised to pay him a trifle for each child, and to support him, which they can afford to do as they collect money in the different towns on subscription papers. He is desirous to leave their company and join some merchants at Madras with whom he is acquainted. He states that the various parties are always fighting with one another, but that he does not believe that they are dishonest and commit robberies.

2. At 6 o'clock this morning I mustered the whole body within the Fort at Poonamallee, and divided them into four parties under their respective heads or jemadars, according to the lists annexed, that is to say, two parties of those calling themselves Shirazites and two of Kirmanites. There is a decided feud between the Shirazites and Kirmanites originally caused about a misunderstanding respecting a woman whose husband was killed at Mahidpore, and who is now claimed by the brother of the deceased, he alleging that he contracted a nickah marriage with her soon after the decease of her late husband, but, in addition to this division, there are splits between the other parties, and they, one and all, beg that they may be allowed to separate and take different routes. First, because they cannot agree, and, secondly, because they find that their number alarms the inhabitants of the villages, and, moreover, that they find difficulty in some places to procure provisions in sufficient quantity. They distinctly state that they can make their way through the country in an honest and peaceable manner by the contributions which they collect from charitable persons in towns and large places. It is quite evident that they have money and some jewels, as they are most anxious to obtain leave to visit the bazaars to make purchases.

3. After I had arranged the parties this morning in a very quiet manner, and just as I was leaving, unfortunately two women of distinct parties quarrelled and instantly came to blows, and it was with some difficulty that they were torn asunder. I sent the aggressor to a cell, and the other was taken away by her friends, and I did not leave the place until the excitement caused by this squabble had subsided. I had scarcely reached the quarters of Colonel Impett, when word was brought that a general fight had commenced, and I returned to the Fort in company with the Colonel where a remarkable scene presented itself. Nearly the whole body, men and women, were in open skirmishing order, generally armed with long bamboo staves, and a sharp action with brickbats and stones was going on from the rear and flanks, whilst the centre was earnestly fighting hand to hand. At this period there was not a sound beyond the blows; all were deeply engaged in this great conflict between the two parties, in which the women distinguished themselves for their fury and violence; the body of one women was lying near the centre in a state of insensibility covered with blood, and most of them were bleeding from wounds in different parts of their bodies. It was with the greatest difficulty that the parties were separated and disarmed, and the only way to prevent the renewal of the fight was by removing the Kirmanites in a body from the Fort under a strong military guard into some public bungalow in the neighbourhood where a guard will be placed. Fortunately the doctor was on the ground, and the woman who was so severely wounded received immediate attention, and the others had their wounds dressed. This scene was a good example of what might be the consequence if these people were permitted to wander through the country except under supervision; and I beg leave to suggest that they may be started in four or five detached bodies under surveillance of the civil anthorities in routes laid down for them. They all express a desire to journey towards Colcutta, but in my humble opinion it will be advisable to send them to the Northern parts of the Bombay districts to pass through Sind towards Affganistan. The inhabitants of the countrie. to the West are far better able to deal with these sort of peoples Though in truth I believe that they are harmless if treated quietly, they are naturally very excitable, loud talkative, and like all Persians full of boast. The women are infinitely more difficult to subdue; when once roused they appear insensible to everything but the object of their anger, and neither threats, speaking, pulling, or even positive violence had the slightest effect to draw them from the struggle in which they took a most prominent part.

4. When once separated into distinct parties, four or five peons with each will suffice to protect the inhabitants, although they may not be able to prevent them from breaking one another's heads. The sooner they are put in motion the better, for whilst in a state of inaction and idleness they dwell on their personal misunderstandings. With the permission of the Right Honourable the Governor in Council I will discharge the man Alli Uskur.

LIST.

1. *Shirazees.*

Khooda Moorat.
Hajee Hussain.
Mirza Shakiram.
Mirza Kareem.
Mirza Ally Moorat.
Mirza Ally.
Mirza Hoossain.
Mirza Mahomed Salah.
Mirza Zitoonee.
Mirza Jamal.
Mirza Ali Panah.

Men ...	... 11
Women ...	... 13
Children ...	... 13
Total	... 37

2. *Shirazees.*

Mahomed Beg.
Dara Beg.
Mahomed Ali Beg.
Shasoovar.
Camal.
Goolam Rajah.
Tahzire.

Men ...	... 7
Women ...	... 6
Children...	... 6
Total	... 19

3. *Kirmanese.*

Mirza Abbas.
Raja Beg.
Suffer Beg.
Khoorban Ally Beg.
Moobaruck Beg.
Ebram Beg.
Hussul Ally Beg.
Mohosun Beg.
Hoossain Beg.
Goolam Hoossain Beg.
Dooly Beg.
Raheem Beg.
Kadeer Beg.
Abdoollah Beg.
Nusseeb.
Hussanee Beg.
Ally Beg.
Ally Mahomed Beg.

Men	... 18
Women	... 16
Children	... 21
Total	... 55

4. *Kirmanese.*

Goolam Ally.
Hussan Ally.
Syed Ally.
Alla Cas.
Shamahomed.

Men ...	... 5
Women ...	... 6
Children	... 10
Total	... 21

Ponies 75.

The statement of Khooda Moorat *of Shiraz.*—I am an inhabitant of Shiraz. I am a siltoon or jemadar. I have land of my own, and I manufactured carpets. In consequence of famine there was much distress. Our sheep died, and our occupation was gone. We therefore resolved to come away and beg. This was about four years ago. Eight men, thirteen

women and children, including my wife and child, amounting in all to 37, followed me, and we joined Mahomed Beg's party. We all proceeded to Kirman where we were joined by the parties under C. Mirza Abbas and Goolam Ally. We then journeyed through Khorasan to Cabul *viâ* Herat. At Cabul we divided, and our parties from Shiraz took the road to Peshawar, whilst the Kirmanese went towards Candahar. Our parties went through the Punjab to Delhi, and from thence to Lucknow. On leaving Lucknow about four coss from the city at night, we were attacked by a gang of robbers who shot two of our men and plundered our property. We went back to Lucknow, and the gentleman Seleman (Colonel Sleeman) gave us Rs. 1,000. We then travelled through Gwalior to Mahidpore. In the neighbourhood of this place my brother-in-law Raheeman was killed by a sepoy. We complained to the gentlemen at Mahidpore, who imprisoned the sepoy. He left a widow named Piesah and a young child. We travelled on as far as Shimoga where we met the two parties of Kirmanese under Mirza Abbas and Goolam Ally. Since the parties have rejoined, we have been quarrelling about the woman Piesah. Truth is this: After the death of her husband Raheem, she contracted a nicka marriage with Alli Rama, the brother of the deceased Raheem. I was present when the Cauzee read the ceremony and fixed the seal. But I cannot remember the name of the place. When we got to Shimoga Piesah left our party and went to her sister, the wife of Goolam Ally, who is her first cousin, and totally denied the nicka marriage, her reason for doing this is that she is attached to the son of a woman with whom Alli Pana had contracted a former nicka. Piesah remains with Goolam Ally's family, whilst Alli Pana endeavours to obtain possession of her. In addition to other connections, Goolam Ally and Ally Pana are the sons of brother and sister. From Shimoga we were taken to Bangalore, and from thence brought down to Madras. We are poor. We have no money in hand. How can we go to our country. Let us go to Calcutta or to Nepaul. We can go by begging. We will leave a writing undertaking not to molest or trouble any people. If we do so, we may be punished. The truth is we are so large a party that the people in the villages get frightened and run away. It will be better to divide us into four parties and let us go by different routes; and it will be absolutely necessary first to settle the dispute about Piesah by our laws and practice. She is bound to adhere to the nicka husband for life. My party has got nineteen ponies, three muskets, one carbine, and a broken sword. We lost Rs. 400 on the road near Poonamallee. We do not know who took them, whether the robbers or sepoys.

Taken and acknowledged at the General Police Office at Madras before me this 10th day of April 1856, the contents having been first explained by the sworn Interpretor Ramachundra Row.

The mark

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OF KHOODA MOORAT.

E. F. ELLIOT,
Justice of the Peace.

The statement of Mahomed Beg *of Shiraz.*—I am a native of Shiraz. In my own country I am styled siltoon, that is to say, one who has farmers and labourers under him. About four years ago many people left our country because there was a famine for want of rain, and locusts destroyed our fruits and our sheep died. I left my country with my wife, son and daughter, and 16 followers, namely, eight men, six women, and two children. We were joined by a party of 37 under another siltoon named Khooda Moorat, who lives about four coss distance from my village. We first moved to Kirman, which is ten days' journey from our country, and there we stopt for about a month. We were here joined by a party of 47 Kirmanese, men, women and children, under a siltoon or jemadar named Mirza Abbas, and another party of 20 under Goolam Ally siltoon. We then all travelled to Khorasaw to visit the tomb of a saint, where we remained about a month; from thence we travelled to Herat. Meerza Tehmas, the uncle of the present King, gave us a present of Rs. 100 before we started from Kirman, and on the road to Herat we lived on the charity of the inhabitants, many of whom were known to us. We remained in Herat later than a month, and the whole party from thence proceeded to Cabul. At Cabul we resolved to separate, and our two parties from Shiraz determined to come to Hindustan *viâ* Guzni and Peshawar, whilst the Kirmanese under Mirza Abbas and Goolam Ally to the route to Candahar. We stayed 20 days at Peshawar where we visited the English authorities and got a passport. We then went to Lahore, there we stayed a month, and we remained travelling about the Punjab for about a year. We also visited Maritsir, after which we went to Delhi; there we delivered the passport we had obtained at Peshawar and got the one now produced from the second Governor. We then went to Lucknow. On the first day we presented ourselves at the palace gate; the whole party received at the rate of Rs. 2 each. We remained at Lucknow six months begging. We then went to a village near Futtinghur, where we were attacked by a large body of robbers under a famous chief named Moosarally. They had fire-arms and swords. We had four muskets, but were afraid to use them. They fired upon us and then closed, and we fought hand to hand. My own brother and nephew were shot dead, and five of us were wounded. I was severely wounded by a sword cut on the head. We were plundered. We were robbed of money and property of the value of Rs. 4,000, namely, carpets which we brought for sale, all our copper utensils, some trinkets and Rs. 400 in money which we collected at Lucknow and Delhi. We returned immediately to Lucknow, where we complained to Colonel Sleeman, who wrote to the King to call upon him to issue orders for the apprehension of the robbers; and after ten days three men were brought in; but as they were not identified, nothing could be done. In about a month afterwards we got Rs. 1,000 from the king as compensation, Colonel Sleeman having written on our behalf. We then went to Cawnpore, where we remained a month, from thence to Acbarabad, where we stayed two months; thence to Gwalior; from thence to Mahidpore. The pony of one of our men named Raheem strayed into a field where it was found grazing

by the owner of the land. When Raheem discovered the tattoo, he asked the man to return it, but he refused and abused him, which Raheem returned. The man then went to the Cutwal and brought a sepoy named Kanlay Khan who abused Raheem, and when Raheem returned it, the sepoy cut him down with a sword and killed him. We all went to the place, and presently an officer who was encamped near there arrived with troops, the Cutwal having reported to him that we had slain a sepoy in the Company's service; but when the officer saw the corpse, he said the Cutwal was a liar and placed him in confinement. Kanlay Khan was sent to Mahidpore, where he was sentenced to imprisonment for life by great gentlemen. Raheem was not more than 20 years of age; he left a widow named Piesah. We remained at Mahidpore more than a month while the enquiry was proceeding. We then went to Indore; from thence to Malligaum; thence to Ahmednaggur; thence to Sholapore; afterwards to Dharwar; from Dharwar to Shimoga. Two days after our arrival at this place the parties of Mirza Abbas and Goolam Ally, from whom we parted at Cabul as stated above about three years ago, arrived, and we were all taken to Bangalore and sent down to Madras.

At Shimoga the widow Piesah went to Goolam Ally Jemadar who is married to her sister because she had no relation of her own with our party. To this her husband's brother, Ali Panah, objected on the grounds that he had contracted a nicka marriage with her. This had led to a misunderstanding and quarrels. Our parties from Shiraz were never at Bombay. We got no passports after we left Delhi. We never saw the sea. I request that we may be separated from the Kirmanese, because it is difficult to find provisions for so large a party. If we are permitted we will buy cloths and trade. We have a few rupees which we have received in charity,—some have Rs. 5, others Rs. 10, others Rs. 15. It is our wish to go to Calcutta by land. It would kill us to send us by sea.

At Delhi I met with one Moulavi Alli Uskur, a native of Shiraz, who had been many years settled there. He joined our party and has been with us ever since. I never said that we were going to Mecca. We were driven from our Native land by distress, and our object in coming to India was to beg, and here we wish to remain five or six years, and if we get enough money, then we will return to our country, otherwise we will stay and die here.

Taken and acknowledged before me at the General Police Office at Madras this 4th day of April 1856, the contents having been first explained by the sworn Interpreter Ramachundra Row.

The mark

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OF MAHOMED BEG.

E. F. ELLIOT,

Justice of the Peace.

The statement of MIRZA ABBAS *of Kirman.*—I am a native of Kirman in the neighbourhood of Shiraz. I keep shop and also manufacturer of carpets. I am a jemadar or headman of my own people. In consequence of a famine my sheep died. I also lost my property and we left home to come to this country to beg. My party consists of 15 women, 16 men and 16 children. Another jemadar named Goolam Ally belonging to my country joined my party with 21 persons. Mahomed Beg and Khooda Moorat came from Shiraz with their people, and we all travelled first to Khorasan, to Herat, and to Cabul, where we separated. The Shiraz parties under Mahomed Beg went towards Dharwar, and my people, the Kirmanese, went to Candahar; from thence to Shikarpore and Mooltan; from thence to Ferozepore; Loodiana to Delhi; then we went to Agra; from Agra to Gwalior, Oojein and Indore; from there to Berhampore, Aurungabad and Ahmednuggur; afterwards to Sholapore, Belgaum and Dharwar. On the other side of Bangalore we met the Shiraz people and went with them to Bangalore; from whence we wanted to go to Trichinopoly; but they forced us to come to Madras. It was accidental our meeting with the Shiraz people in the Mysore country. We had not settled to do so when we parted at Cabul. On the road at several places we heard that there were some countrymen of ours travelling. I got a passport from the authorities at Gwalior, and the other jemadar Goolam Ally got one from the English gentleman at Oojein. We never saw the sea on the other coast. We saw a gentleman on the other side of Bangalore who gave us Rs. 20, seven sheep, and ordered all provisions to be provided for us on the road. Goolam Ally, Khooda Moorat and Ali Panah are on bad terms on account of Piesah. How can we go back to our own country; the Sircar people will come upon us for the arrears of the four years that we have been absent? Let each jemadar take his own people, and we will go direct to Calcutta selling some things and buying others; but if we are permitted we will take the road to Trichinopoly. We came to Hindustan to beg. We heard that the Sircar would take care of the poor people and give us something and let us sit down in peace and comfort. We never said that we were going to Mecca. How could we go to Mecca without money? We have only got a few rupees that we have collected from charitable gentlemen with which we want to buy some clothes and also material for a tent to give shelter to our women and children on our march. I do not wish to remain in company with the Shiraz people. Let us be separated. Send us in different directions. My party—34 ponies, three guns and four or five knives.

Taken and acknowledged before me at the General Police Office at Madras this 4th day of April 1856, the contents having been first explained by the sworn Interpreter Ramachundra Row.

The mark

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OF MIRZA ABBAS.

E. F. ELLIOT,

Justice of the Peace.

The statement of Goolam Ally, *of Kirman.*—I am a native Kirman in Persia. I am a cultivator and had sheep. I am a siltoon or jemadar. In consequence of the death of the king and a famine, which rendered us poor, I was obliged to leave my country four years ago. I, my wife and child left our house, followed by five men, five women, and eight children. We have eleven ponies and two guns. We joined the party of Mirza Abbas, and then we came away in company with the people of Shiraz under Mahomed Beg and Khooda Moorat. These people from Shiraz remained with us at Kirman for about a year, during which time a man from Shiraz named Raheem married Piesah, the sister of my wife. We all travelled together as far as Cabul, where we separated, and the people of Shiraz went to Peshawar, whilst we from Kirman went to Candahar, Shikarpore, Mooltan, Ferozepore and Delhi, and we travelled about till we arrived at Shimoga. We never saw the sea. At Mahidpore the gentlemen gave me the passport which I have produced here. We showed subscription papers to gentlemen at different stations who gave us Rs. 2, 3, 5. After leaving Shimoga we met a gentleman on horseback who asked us what we wanted, and he then gave us Rs. 20 and seven sheep, and he ordered us many things and gave us 15 carts to remove our families; so kind was this gentlemen that he would have given us Rs. 30 if we had asked him for them. Afterwards we found that Rs. 20 and seven sheep were not enough for our daily consumption, as it only gave us 2 annas and 8 pie per head. We complained at Bangalore that this was not enough; there we were told that the great gentlemen at Madras would supply sufficient for us. We are ready to go to any part of the world provided it is not by sea. We will return to our own country if money enough is given to us. Give me a passport and I will go away quite separate from the other people who ill-treat and pull my beard out by the roots on account of Piesah. Piesah was not well treated by her late husband Raheem and his relations, and now his brother Ali Panah claims her as his nicka wife, having already an old woman for a wife who abuses and ill-treats Piesah, and she will not stay there, and wants to remain with us. If Mahomed Beg and others will swear on the Koran that there was a marriage ceremony, then I will give up the girl. I want to go first to Calcutta, and then to beg to Jummoo, Cashmere, and other countries.

Taken and acknowledged before me at the General Police Office at Madras this 4th day of April 1856, the contents having been first explained by the sworn Interpreter Ramachundra Row.

The mark

×

of GOOLAM ALLY.

E. F. ELLIOT,

Justice of the Peace.

TRANSLATION FROM MAHRATTA.

No. 98. *By* WILLIAM AGNEW GALFITCH, *the Magistrate of the Zillah of Kolapore.*

THIS is to certify that Hajee Hussain and other people who are in his company are come from (Eran) Teheran with their females and children, and are going to Mecca begging. It appears that these people are harmless beggars.

(Signed) W. A. GALFITCH,
Magistrate, Zillah Kolapore.

Dated 15*th November* 1855.

Signed by—

APPAJEE CHITNESS.

(A True Translation as near as can be.)

(Signed) T. RAMACHUNDRA ROW,
Chief Magistrate's Interpreter.

TRANSLATION FROM MAHRATTA.

Sadr Station No. 840 *of* 1855. *By* DR. FORBES, *Assistant Magistrate in charge of Sadr Station.*

THIS is to certify that Hajee Hussain and the other people who are with him have come from (Eran) Teheran with their wives and children, and are going to Mecca begging. It appears that they are harmless beggars.

(Signed) A. FORBES,
Assistant Magistrate, C. and S.

Dated 11*th December* 1855.

Written by—

BHEEK,
Nevesendah of Hoozoor.

(True Translation as near as can be.)

(Signed) T. RAMACHUNDRA ROW,
Chief Magistrate's Interpreter.

TRANSLATION.

GOD.

District ——————— J. DUMERGUE,
April 7th, 1855.

MAY the protectors of honour, the thannadars and jemadars and clerks in the court of justice of Hissar, Feroza, be preserved.

This day at the hour of report the thannadar of Hissar brought forward the affair of Hussun Khan, and Doolah Khan and Mahomed Khan, Affghans of Shiraz, charged with being (   ), and being questioned during the sitting they each stated correctly their halting places from Shiraz to Ajmere.

Capital of Sha Jehanabad. Seal of the Fouzdaree Court.

There is, therefore, no doubt of their being travellers, and of their having come from Ajmere, and being *en route* to their Native place. Accordingly, all of you are ordered not to imagine these people to be (   ), dated 7th April 1855.

THE parties here referred to passed through this Magistracy in all November, they are peaceful and poverty-stricken.

(Signed) D. L. FRASER TYTLER,
Magistrate, Ahmednuggur.

Extract from the Minutes of Consultation No. 373, *dated the* 15*th April* 1856.

READ the following papers:

From Acting Magistrate of Canara (here enter 20th March 1856).
From the Chief Magistrate (ditto 7th April 1856).

THE Right Honourable the Governor in Council concurs in the suggestion of the Chief Magistrate that the Persians referred to in his letter should be sent through the Northern parts of the Bombay districts so as to be passed through Sind to Affghanistan, and that they should be started hence in four or five detached bodies under surveillance of the civil authorities by routes laid down for them.

2. The arrangement made by Mr. Elliot in the lists subjoined to his letter seems the best to follow. The Governor in Council therefore directs that the two parties of Shirazees be sent to Bellary, to be passed into Dharwar, by the direct road *viâ* Cuddapah, and that the two bodies of Kirmanese be sent to the Cuddapah District by the more circuitous route of Nellore. An interval of five days should intervene between the despatch of the parties on the same route.

3. The Magistrate of Chingleput will start the first batch of Shirazees (37) and the first of Kiramanese (55) each under a sufficient guard of peons as soon as possible, and the two other detachments five days afterwards. He will supply them as hitherto with provisions whilst in his district, and will communicate with the Magistrates of North Arcot and Nellore that his peons may be relieved at the frontiers of those districts. Those Magistrates will communicate with the Magistrate of Cuddapah, and he with the Magistrate of Bellary. Mr. Pelly will send them on to Dharwar, taking care that the authorities there have ample notice, and that the four parties are kept well apart.

4. Ali Uskur will be discharged as recommended by Mr. Elliot.

5. The passports forwarded by the Chief Magistrate will be returned to him for delivery to the parties, copies having been made of them in the Government Office.

6. The Government further resolve to furnish copies of all these papers to the Supreme Government and to the Government of Bombay, and to draw the attention of those authorities to the mischief occasioned by bodies of people of this description being allowed to pass through the Company's territories.

7. Copy of Mr. Elliot's report and of these orders will also be sent to General Cubbon for his information.

8. The Right Honourable the Governor in Council regrets that he cannot regard the explanation submitted by the Acting Magistrate of Canara as at all sufficient. However the men may have reached his district, he should not have allowed them to pass through it, nor contented himself with simply turning them over to the authorities in the next Province, but should have reported the whole circumstance to Government, and detained the Persians, pending the receipt of their instructions. The trouble and expense occasioned by the march of these people to Madras and back to Dharwar would thus have been obviated.

(True Extract.)

T. PYCROFT,

Chief Secretary to the Govt. of Fort St. George.

No. 703, dated the 6th June 1856.

From—C. Beadon, Esq., Secretary to the Government of India, Home Department.

To—The Chief Secretary to the Government of Fort St. George.

I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter No. 443, dated the 15th April last, reporting the Proceedings of the Government of Madras connected with a large party of Iranees who have been travelling through that Presidency, and bringing to notice the mischief that may be occasioned by large bodies of people of that description being allowed to wander about in the British territories.

2. The Right Honourable the Governor General in Council is inclined to concur with the Madras Government as to the necessity for the enactment of some law to enable the Local Government or its officers to deal with such parties, and would suggest that the Legislative Member of Council for Madras should be instructed to bring in a Bill for that purpose.

3. The law applicable to such cases in the Bengal Presidency is contained in Regulation III., 1821.

No. 735, dated Fort St. George, the 10th July 1856.

From—T. Pycroft, Esq., Chief Secretary to the Government of Fort St. George.

To—The Secretary to the Government of India, Home Dept.

I am directed by the Right Honourable the Governor in Council to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 6th ultimo, stating, in reference to the parties of Iranees mentioned in my letter of 15th April last, that the Right Honourable the Governor General in Council is inclined to concur with the Madras Government as to the necessity for the enactment of some law to enable the Local Government or its officers to deal with such parties, and would suggest that the Legislative Member of Council for Madras should be instructed to bring in a Bill for that purpose, the law applicable to such cases in the Bengal Presidency being that contained in Regulation III., 1821.

2. In reply, I am desired to explain that the Madras Government were not induced to address the Government of India in the matter of these Iranees, in consequence of the insufficiency of the law of this Presidency to deal with such parties while in the Madras limits. By Regulation II., 1822, Section 3, and Regulation VI., 1827, Section VI. of the Madras Code the Magistrate has ample powers to hold such vagrants to security or to commit them to prison. But this proceeding, besides bearing hardly on the families of the men who may be sent to jail, would burden the Government with the expense of maintaining the men who are imprisoned, or rather the whole party, during the entire period of their detention, and it would still be a question how to dispose of them when liberated, the only course being to pass them back towards their own country as has recently been done with the Iranees.

3. The Madras Government would desire to suggest for the consideration of the Government of India whether it would not be preferable to have recourse to measures of prevention, rather than coercion, and whether instructions might not be sent to the authorities on the West and North-Western frontier to prevent such parties of vagabonds from passing through their districts at all.

4. On the occasion now under reference the Iranees would seem to have proceeded in two parties—one *viâ* Peshawar and the Punjab, and one *viâ* Candahar and Mooltan, and to have been roaming for a length of time through the Company's Provinces without apparently check or interference on the part of the authorities until they entered the Madras territories.

Extract from the Proceedings of the Government of India in the Home Department,—No. 1319, *dated the* 15*th August* 1856.

Read again—

Home Consultation, 6th June 1856, Nos. 5 to 7.

The papers recorded on the Consultation of the date noted in the margin.

Read—

A letter No. 735, dated the 10th ultimo, from the Chief Secretary to the Government of Fort St. George, suggesting the adoption of certain measures with the view of preventing vagrants from wandering about the British territories.

RESOLUTION.—The Right Honourable the Governor General in Council is of opinion that the passage of bands of vagrants from foreign countries through any part of India is objectionable, and considers it advisable that a communication should be addressed in the sense proposed by the Madras Government to the Chief Commissioner of the Punjab and to the Commissioner of Sind.

2. It appears that these Persians misconducted themselves at Mysore; but instead of being punished as they ought to have been, they were fostered by the authorities there, receiving a large daily allowance in money and sheep. His Lordship in Council thinks it would be desirable to obtain an explanation from the Commissioner of Mysore upon this point.

ORDER.—Ordered, that copies of the foregoing papers be forwarded to the Foreign Department, with a request that the necessary communication may be made to the Chief Commissioner of the Punjab and to the Commissioner of Mysore.

(True Extract.)

C. BEADON,

Secretary to the Govt. of India, Home Dept.

No. 1072, dated the 15th August 1856.

From—C. BEADON, Esq., Secretary to the Government of India, Home Department.

To—The Secretary to the Government of Bombay.

From Chief Secretary to Government of Fort St. George No. 443, dated the 13th April 1856, with enclosure.
To ditto ditto No. 703, dated the 6th June 1856.
From ditto ditto No. 735, dated 10th July 1856.

I AM directed to forward the accompanying copy of a correspondence with the Government of Fort St. George as per margin relative to a band of Iranees wandering about in the Madras territories.

2. As it appears from these papers that this party of Iranees is stated to have passed into the Madras Presidency with passports from the authorities at Bombay, the Right Honourable the Governor General in Council is desirous of ascertaining what the practice in Bombay is for granting passports, and whether, in the opinion of the Right Honourable the Governor in Council, the passport system had not better be altogether abandoned at Bombay, as it has long been in the Bengal Presidency.

3. His Lordship in Council desires me to request that the Commissioner of Sind may be instructed to prevent parties of vagrants crossing that portion of the frontier of British India which is comprised in the territory administered by him.

No. 1068, dated the 15th August 1856.

From—C. BEADON, Esq., Secretary to the Government of India, Home Department.

To—The Chief Secretary to the Government of Fort St. George.

I AM directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter No. 735, dated the 10th ultimo, suggesting, with a view to prevent parties of vagrants wandering about the British territories, that the district officers of Government upon the West and North-West frontier should be authorized to prevent the entrance of such bands into the British dominion.

2. A communication on the subject will be issued to the Chief Commissioner of the Punjab and to the Commissioner of Sind.

No. 127, dated Bombay Castle, the 17th September 1856.

From—H. L. ANDERSON, Esq., Secretary to the Government of Bombay, Political Department.

To—The Secretary to the Government of India, Home Department.

I AM directed by the Right Honourable the Governor in Council to acknowledge the receipt of your letter No. 1072, dated the 15th ultimo, forwarding copy of a correspondence with the Government of Fort St. George relative to a band of Iranees recently wandering about in the Madras territories.

2. In reply, I am desired, with reference to the 2nd paragraph of your letter, to state, for the information of the Right Honourable the Governor General in Council, that passports are very rarely granted by this Government, only eight having been issued since June 1853, and that recently the practice has been wholly discontinued so far as the Government itself is concerned. In the case under discussion, the Magistrates under this Presidency who granted passports appear to have been influenced by the fact that the Iranees had received a passport from the Political Agent at Mehidpoor.

3. Adverting to the 3rd paragraph of your letter, I am further instructed to state that the subject has engaged the attention of this Government since the month of April, and that the instructions therein suggested were anticipated by orders issued to the Acting Commissioner in Sind on the 13th of June.

Extract from the Proceedings of the Right Honourable the Governor General of India in Council in the Foreign Department,—No. 5138, *under date the* 10*th October* 1856.

READ—

No. 100, dated Bangalore, the 22nd September 1856.

From—Lieutenant-General M. CUBBON, Commissioner for the Government of the Territories of His Highness the Rajah of Mysore.

To—The Secretary to the Government of India, Foreign Department.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter No. 4623 of the 30th ultimo, requesting me to explain the circumstances under which certain Persian vagrants who misconducted themselves while passing through Mysore were fostered instead of punished.

2. In reply, I have the honour to request that you will bring the following circumstances to the notice of the Right Honourable the Governor General in Council.

3. On the 19th January 1855 the Superintendent of the Nuggur Division reported to me that he had received a letter from the Acting Magistrate of Canara informing him that a party of Iranees—men, women and children—had arrived lately at Sircy with rahdarries from Bombay officers, and that he had sent them towards their destination (Calcutta) by the most direct route under an escort sufficient to give the people confidence, and prevent them from extorting alms.

4. In reply, the Superintendent of Nuggur was informed that he was to relieve the guard of peons sent from Canara, and to take effectual measures to prevent the party from loitering on the road. The Superintendents of Chittledroog and Astagram were also directed to relieve the guards on the party reaching the frontiers of their respective divisions.

5. Reports having been received from the Superintendent of Chittledroog of the Iranees having been guilty of acts of violence in his district, I wrote the following letter on 26th February to the Police Magistrate at Bangalore:

"Sir, I have the honour to forward copy of a letter, with its enclosure, from the Superintendent of Chittledroog, having reference to the passage through this territory of a party of Iranees, numbering in men, women and children about 160. They are furnished with passports from the Bombay authorities as being on their way, I think, to Calcutta *viâ* Madras, and under this pass have been forwarded by the Magistrate of Canara.

"Since entering the Chittledroog Division they have been guilty of acts of violence, plundering villagers of supplies, and setting the police guard which accompanied them at defiance, so as to render it necessary for a guard of Silladars to be placed over them.

"It having been arranged that the party should proceed to Madras *viâ* Ossoor, and as the Magistrate of that District may not have the means at his disposal for controlling these vagabonds, I deem it expedient that they should be disarmed at Bangalore on their arrival there, and I request you will take measures to carry this into effect.

"It may be prudent for you to call upon the Officer Commanding Bangalore for military aid to effect this purpose. I therefore request you will do so. The party may be expected to arrive at Bangalore on the 27th or 28th instant, and the Amildar has been directed to have them conducted direct to your Office.

"After the party has been disarmed, I deem it expedient that their baggage and persons should be searched in order to ascertain whether they have not the means of paying for their own supplies on the road.

"This being done, I request you will hand the whole party over to the Amildar of Bangalore, who has been instructed to forward them on their journey".

6. These instructions were carried out to the letter by Major Miller. The party was dismissed and searched in the presence of a detachment of Her Majesty's 43rd Light Infantry, and was transferred to the care of the Collector of Salem in a state in which they could do comparatively little harm.

7. Such were the circumstances under which this party of vagabonds passed through Mysore, and although I am bound to admit that, to use the words of your letter, they were fostered, instead of punished, as they ought to have been, yet I do not well see how the authorities here could have acted otherwise without a certainty of bloodshed. They entered the Mysore country without warning of any kind, beyond the letter from the Collector of Canara, stating that they were to be forwarded to Calcutta under passes from Bombay authorities. It was natural to suppose that these passes were given to them on some condition and with some object, but there was no time to make references. They were bold, turbulent and hungry, and possessed of arms which they were quite ready to make use of. Had they been refused food, they would have taken it by force, which would have had to be met with force, such as the district officers had not at their command; for men and women who, when unarmed, waged such a battle as Mr. Elliot witnessed in the Fort at Poonamallee, would with arms in their hands have cared little for village police, and would not have submitted to any but an overwhelming force of Native troops without a sanguinary struggle. Indeed, on one occasion before the escort of Silladars was sent to them, they set the police at defiance, deliberately loaded their fire-arms, and marched away in an opposite direction to their destination.

8. The question was a difficult one in whatever way it was looked at, but I was resolved to spare blood, if possible, and I could see no alternative but to feed them at the public expense until I had the means of coercing them under circumstances which would render resistance hopeless. I might then, it is true, have punished them for their turbulent

conduct, but I could only have done so by throwing the whole gang into jail, which would have added to the cost of feeding them, and only postponed the difficulty of dealing with them when released.

9. Having thus, as I trust, succeeded in absolving the Mysore authorities, I think it fair to add that, in my opinion, the Collector of Canara laboured under very similar difficulties.

ORDER.—Ordered, that a copy of the above letter be sent to the Home Department for information, with reference to the extract thence received dated 15th August last, No. 1319.

(True Extract.)

G. F. EDMONSTONE,

Secretary to the Govt. of India, Foreign Dept.

Nos. 1517, 1518, 1746, 1519 and 1520, dated the 24th November 1856.

From—C. BEADON, Esq., Secretary to the Government of India, Home Department.

To—The Secretary to the Government of Fort St. George.

Ditto	ditto	ditto	of Bombay.
Ditto	ditto	ditto	of Bengal.
Ditto	ditto	ditto	of the N. W Provinces.
Ditto	ditto	Governor, Straits Settlements.	

I AM directed to request that the attention of the * may be drawn to the notification of this date published in the *Calcutta Gazette* on the subject of passports, and that the necessary instructions for the due observance of the orders therein contained may be issued for the guidance of all officers under the Governments of Madras, Bombay Bengal, North-Western Provinces and Straits.

* Fort St. George ... Bombay ...	Governor in Council
Bengal ... N. W. Provinces ...	Lieutenant-Governor
Straits Settlements ...	Governor

No. 1816.

ORDER.—Ordered, that a copy of this letter and of the notification referred to be forwarded to the Foreign Department for such further orders as may be necessary.

Notification No. 1729, dated Fort William, the 24th November 1856.

IT has been brought to the notice of the Government of India that Magistrates and other authorities, civil and political, are in the habit of granting passports or certificates and other documents in the nature of

passports to persons travelling or intending to travel from one part of India to another.

This practice being quite unnecessary, and liable to much abuse, is hereby strictly prohibited. Hereafter no passports or documents of any kind will be granted to any persons travelling or intending to travel in India, either in the territories subject to the Government of the East India Company, or in Native States.

Persons intending to travel from India to foreign countries can, as heretofore, obtain passports on application to Government in the proper department.

By order, &c.,

C. BEADON,

Secretary to the Govt. of India, Home Dept.

No. 1302, dated Fort St. George, the 8th October 1857.

From—E. Maltby, Esq., Acting Chief Secretary to the Government of Fort St. George.

To—The Secretary to the Government of India, Home Dept.

Under the orders issued by the Government of India on 24th November 1856, No. 1729, the passport regulations previously in force in this Presidency were set aside. Those rules prescribed the forms which foreigners were to follow who wished to travel in the interior, and authorized Magistrates to grant passports to persons of respectability among our Native subjects when they applied for this protection on having occasion to visit other districts and carry a few weapons as a defence against robbers.

2. In the present state of India the want of passport regulations is much felt, and the subject has been brought before this Government in several ways: By the secret despatch of the Honourable Court (1837) dated 25th August last, ordering measures to be taken to prevent foreigners traversing the country. By a letter from the Commissioner of Police at Poona, to the Magistrate of Bellary, intimating that in the Bombay districts the passport system has been brought into operation for the protection of loyal subjects and the detention of suspicious strangers, and that all travellers must consequently be so prepared unless from being well known their identity could be readily established. Lastly, by applications from private individuals who asked for this protection on having occasion to proceed into the interior for business or other purposes.

3. Under these circumstances I am directed to bring the subject before the Government of India; but meanwhile, as the orders of the Honourable Court and the events in Northern India require such a

course, this Government will cause passports to be issued to parties who apply for this protection, and can be safely permitted to travel through our Provinces.

No. 2057, dated the 29th December 1857.

From—C. Beadon, Esq., Secretary to the Government of India, Home Department.

To—The Acting Chief Secretary to the Government of Madras.

I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter No. 1302, dated the 8th October last, reporting the intention of the Government of Madras to give passports to persons who may apply for such protection and can be safely permitted to travel through the country.

2. The Right Honourable the Governor General in Council desires me to observe that a passport system affords no security whatever to a Government unless it is marked by a much more numerous and efficient police than any part of India possesses, whilst it is open to very great abuse. But if the Government of Madras feels that security in any part of that Presidency is increased by its adoption in these exceptional times, His Lordship in Council will offer no objection.

Extract, paragraphs 81 *to* 83, *from a Public despatch to Secretary of State for India,—No.* 28, *dated the* 16*th December* 1858.

Revival of the passport system in the Madras Presidency.

Paragraph 81.—In the 82nd paragraph of our despatch No. 3 of 1857, dated the 9th January, we reported that we had issued a general notification prohibiting the granting of passports to persons travelling in India.

Paragraph 82.—In October 1857 the Madras Government informed us that for certain reasons they had revived the passport system in that Presidency. Those reasons were—

(1) That the Honourable the Court of Directors had ordered measures to be taken to prevent foreigners from traversing the country.

(2) That the system had been revived in the Bombay districts.

(3) That private individuals had asked for passports for their protection.

Paragraph 83.—We observed, in reply, that a passport system afforded no security whatever to a Government unless it was worked by a much more numerous and efficient police than any part of India possessed, whilst it was open to very great abuse. But, we added, that if the Madras Government felt that security in any part of that Presidency was increased by its adoption in these exceptional times, we would offer no objection.

Extract, paragraph 25, *of a despatch from the Secretary of State for India,—No.* 62, *dated the* 9*th June* 1859.

Revival of the passport system in the Madras Presidency.

PARAGRAPH 25.—It does not appear in the letter from the Madras Government that it was contemplated that it should be compulsory on any individual wishing to proceed to the interior of the country to provide himself with a passport, but only that "passports should be issued to parties who apply for this protection, and can safely be permitted to travel through our Provinces. The passport system, as you remark, affords no security whatever to a Government unless it is worked by a much more numerous and efficient police than any part of India possesses, whilst it is open to very great abuse", and you informed the Madras Government that you would not object to the adoption of the course proposed by them in these exceptional times. The necessity for these precautions has now, I hope, ceased to exist.

No. 1479, dated the 22nd July 1859.

From—W. GREY, Esq., Secretary to the Government of India, Home Department.

To—The Chief Secretary to the Government of Fort St. George.

From Madras No. 1302, dated 8th October 1857.
To ditto No. 2057, dated 29th December 1857.

WITH reference to the correspondence noted on the margin, I am directed to transmit the accompanying extract (paragraph 25) of a despatch from the Secretary of State for India No. 62, dated the 9th ultimo, and, with reference thereto, to enquire whether the practice of granting passports in the Madras Presidency is still continued, and whether the Madras Government still considers it desirable to maintain it.

No. 1230, dated Fort St. George, the 12th September 1859.

From—T. PYCROFT, Esq., Chief Secretary to the Government of Fort St. George.

To—The Secretary to the Government of India, Home Dept.

IN reply to your letter dated 22nd July last, No. 1479, I am directed to state, for the information of the Government of India, that the practice of granting passports is not continued in the Madras Presidency, nor do the Madras Government desire it. Since the passing of Act XXXIII. of 1857 foreigners have not been allowed to travel in or pass through any part of the Madras territories without a license, but *Native* subjects of the French and Portuguese Settlements, as well as the subjects of the Cochin, Travancore and Hyderabad States, have been exempted from the operation of the Act.

No. 1485, dated Fort St. George, the 19th October 1865.

From—W. Hudleston, Esq., Acting Secretary to the Government of Fort St. George, Judicial Department.

To—The Secretary to the Government of India, Home Dept.

I am directed to transmit to you, for submission to the Government of India, copies of a letter addressed to the Government of Bombay, and of the papers which were sent with it, relative to a band of foreigners, supposed to be natives of Herat, who have been found wandering about the districts of this Presidency, and committing depredations on the inhabitants of the villages reached by them.

2. It will be seen from the papers furnished that these Heratees have traversed a very considerable extent of British territory, some of them having penetrated to the Southernmost district of this Presidency; that they have been for one or more year occupied in these wanderings, and there is every reason to believe that they have been subsisting on the proceeds of theft and extortion. The Inspector General of Police represents that there have been several similar visitations. In bringing the present case to notice, I am directed to suggest, for the consideration of the Government of India, that some steps should be taken to check the facilities of ingress and free passage which appear to exist at present for these gangs of thieving foreigners.

3. I am also to draw attention to a former correspondence on a similar case, in which the Government of India proposed to issue instructions to the authorities in the Punjab and Sind to prevent the entrance of bodies of vagrants into the British dominions. The events since 1856 have certainly not lessened the necessity for such precautions.

To Government of India, 15th April 1856, No. 443.
From ditto, 6th June 1856, No. 703.
To ditto, 10th July 1856, No. 735.
From ditto, 15th August 1856, No. 1068.

No. 1484, dated Fort St. George, the 19th October 1865.

From—W. Hudleston, Esq., Acting Secretary to the Government of Fort St. George, Judicial Department.

To—The Secretary to the Government of Bombay.

I am directed to transmit copies of the Proceedings of this Government noted in the margin, relative to a band of foreigners, supposed to be natives of Herat, who have been found wandering about the districts of this Presidency, and committing depredations on the inhabitants of the villages reached by them.

No. 1407, dated 29th September 1865.
No. 1452, dated 11th October 1865.
No. 1460, dated 13th October 1865.

2. As it appears, from passports in the possession of these foreigners, that they entered the Madras Presidency by the Bombay frontier, the Magistrate of the Bellary District, in the vicinity of which

one party of the band is at present, has been directed to pass them on into the Bombay territory under surveillance of the police, and to give notice of his proceedings to the Magistrate of Dharwar. I am directed to request that the Government of Bombay may be moved to issue orders directing that these foreigners may be sent on towards their own country, and so prevented from re-entering any of the Madras districts.

Extract from the Proceedings of the Government of Madras in the Judicial Department,—No. 1407, *dated the* 29*th September* 1865.

READ the following letter:

No. 1881, dated Kotagherry, the 23rd September 1865.

From—W. ROBINSON, Esq., Inspector General of Police, Madras.

To—The Chief Secretary to the Government of Madras.

I HAVE the honour to submit the accompanying letter from the Superintendent of Police of Tinnevelly relative to a band of Heeratees, natives of Hydrabad, who are wandering through the district, committing irregularities. He asks for instructions.

2. This is not by any means a solitary case. The districts of the Northern Circars have had several such visitations of lawless ruffians.

3. I am at a loss what steps to recommend; but I certainly think that passports should not be issued to them by Magistrates, and that such obstacles as the law admits of should be put in the way of their wandering over the country.

4. It is quite true that, to get rid of such a threatening gang country villagers contribute supplies, and wink at their illegal and oppressive acts.

No. 320, dated Tinnevelly, the 13th September 1865.

From—Lieutenant C. A. PORTEOUS, Superintendent of Police, Tinnevelly District.

To—The Inspector General of Police.

I HAVE the honour to bring the following to your notice:

1. Some two months ago I received information from the Superintendent of Police, Madura, that a party of about 105 Heeratees were travelling South; that they were inclined to be troublesome, taking fowls and other things from the villagers without paying for them. He mentioned having sent four constables to accompany the party to prevent any abuse on their part in the Madura District, and requested me to relieve his men. Accordingly I did so by a Deputy Head Constable and six constables.

2. This was all the information I received about these pepole.

3. They came down to Palamcottah by the Trunk Road (No. 4), and in several places through which they passed there were outcries of *theft after they had left the village*. The women of the party were accused of thieving by magic and other sorts of nonsense, managing to take away jewels and money from houses that were closely locked; but nothing conclusive could be brought home to them.

4. While in Palamcottah they were inclined to be troublesome, and had to be narrowly watched by the town police, who checked any oppression they attempted there.

5. They had received passports from the Magistrates of several districts through which they had passed, and these passports they appear to make use of, saying that they are "Queen's Orders" to enable them to do what they like.

6. They applied to Deputy Magistrate Vencat Row of this District for a passport, and he referred the matter to the Magistrate (Mr. Wedderburn), who consulted me, and I gave it as my firm opinion that furnishing these people with passports was the greatest absurdity. It could possibly be of no use, and would probably lead to great abuse. A band of Koravars or Yerkulus might as well obtain passports. The Magistrate decided not to furnish them with passports, and also came to the conclusion that the best thing would be to make them "move on". Accordingly this was done.

7. On leaving Palamcottah the Heeratees separated into two parties—one going by Nanganary and Vullioor into Travancore, while the other set out for Tuticorin, purposing to embark there for Ceylon. With both parties I sent police constables in order that they might observe and prevent any oppression.

8. The party to Travancore was passed out of the district, but the Tuticorin party, instead of embarking there, came inland again, and went down South to Palayvellee, Valayuddee, and other places. At the first-mentioned place some of the women managed to effect an entrance into a rich man's house, and stole therefrom a box containing money, jewels, &c. The things stolen were first missed after the Heeratees women left the village, and on their being missed, a chase was at once set up by some of the villagers, a few Kavilgars, and police constables. The women were overtaken on a sandy desert, and in their possession were found all the stolen articles, besides a number of pick locks and false keys. The women are in custody, and will undergo trial. The men of the party were not with the women when the latter were arrested. Had they been, there would probably have been some trouble in arresting the women. During the night, after the arrest of the women, a good deal of firing was heard in the direction of Valayuddee, whither the men had gone, and it is presumed that they were firing to attract the women towards their proper whereabout.

9. The men, with a number of other women and children, are still roaming about the country, and on consultation with the Magistrate,

we have come to the conclusion that the best thing to be done is to make them "move on" out of the district. Such is the case.

10. There is no doubt that these Heeratees are a band of marauders, and that they have abused, and do abuse most shamefully, the passports which were furnished to them in several districts before arriving here.

11. Why these Heeratees have come down here I cannot tell; they profess to barter in precious stones, &c., but this is only a subterfuge.

12. I bring all this to your notice with a view to your taking any measures that you may deem proper to prevent such large gangs of desperate men and women with fire-arms to roam the country *ad libitum* after obtaining passports, to use as a means of oppressing the poor ignorant village people; and hereafter should such gangs be permitted to pass on from district to district, I beg that some orders may be issued to enable me or any Superintendent to whose district such characters proceed to obtain correct and proper information as to the reason of such people leaving their own country, the reasons that they are furnished with passports, the object of their journeys, their final destination, &c.; for with such information these men might be more easily dealt with.

13. Finally, should these people remain any longer in this district, giving trouble, I have the honour to request instructions as to how they are to be dealt with. It may be said, and justly so, "if guilty of any offence, extortion, theft, &c., arrest, and have them punished under the Penal Code"; but it must be remembered that it is a very difficult matter to get the ignorant lower classes, on whom the oppression is generally practised, to come forward and complain *publicly* of their losses. They would rather, in most cases, lose sheep, fowls and other property, and let such go *quietly*, than be obliged to proceed to the Sub-Magistrate's Cutcherry, wait there for days, while the case is undergoing inquiry, and afterwards be obliged to leave their occupation for weeks, while they have to appear at court, to give evidence against their oppressors.

14. For this reason, I believe, much of the injustice practised by such marauders does not come to light; and it is only in a few instances, when the party plundered is an influential man, that we are enabled to get hold of, and bring such individuals under the lash of the law.

15. I have heard much privately, which never would be brought forward by the parties officially. Under these circumstances I consider some special steps require to be taken against such people as these Heeratees.

16. I write this after consultation with the Magistrate.

Order thereon.

The Government understand the object of Mr. Robinson's letter to be to obtain general instructions as to the course to be adopted

in the case of such gangs of sturdy armed beggars as he describes entering the British territory, and wandering about living by begging, or rather extortion and theft; and he deprecates the practice of Magistrates furnishing them with passports, which are unnecessary for any good purpose, but are liable to be greatly abused.

2. The Government entirely concur with him on this point, and resolve to instruct all Magistrates, accordingly, that they are not to grant passports in such cases, and are to be specially careful not to allow such bands to pass through their districts, but to send them back at once, and warn them not to return.

3. The course generally to be adopted in such cases as are described is to compel the gang to quit British territory by the nearest route in the direction of their own country, and for this purpose to pass them back under police surveillance, but certainly not to advance them further into our own districts, unless with the view of reaching the coast, as the nearest point whence they may be deported.

4. The principles of the Foreigners Act (No. III. of 1864) should be kept in view, and the attention of Police Superintendents should be drawn to that law.

5. The Government do not clearly understand from the papers before them whence these men came, and how far they had been passed on through British territory; but they have reason to think that the same gang were expelled from the Mysore country in a Northerly direction some months ago, and they desire to receive a full report as to the route by which they reached Tinnevelly, and by the sanction of what Magistrates they penetrated so far South, and why none of the District Superintendents of Police, through whose ranges they must have passed made any report of them.

6. Mr. Robinson styles the men Heeratees, natives of Hydrabad, and the Government would have assumed that he referred to Hydrabad in Sind, but from his mention that "the Northern Circars have had several such visitations of lawless ruffians". If these gangs come from the Nizam's country, it would seem desirable to address the Resident on the subject, and the Government wish to receive fuller information on this point.

7. As it is probable that this particular band is by this time in the Travancore country, copy of these Proceedings will be furnished to the Resident in Travancore and Cochin, with instructions to suggest to the Rajah's Government the advisability of deporting these men by sea in the direction of their own country (whether Sind or the Deccan) *via* Bombay, and in communication with the authorities there.

(True Extract.)

W. HUDLESTON,

Acting Secretary to the Govt. of Madras.

Extract from the Proceedings of the Government of Madras in the Judicial Department,—No. 1452, *dated the* 11*th October* 1865.

READ the following letter :

No. 39, dated Cuddapah, the 7th October 1865.

From—J. R. COCKERELL, Esq., Acting Magistrate of Cuddapah.

To—The Chief Secretary to the Government of Fort St. George.

I HAVE the honour to report that a band of foreigners, similar to the band described by Lieutenant Porteous as having recently visited the District of Tinnevelly, and which gave occasion for the Proceedings of the Government, in the Judicial Department, No. 318, dated the 29th ultimo, has made its appearance in this district.

2. It entered the district by the Northern frontier of the Badwel Taluq on the 1st instant, having come from the District of Kurnool.

3. On its approach being reported, I made arrangements to arrest its progress; but before any measures of detention could be carried into effect, it had passed Badwel, and was on its way to Cuddapah.

4. It reached the town of Cuddapah on the 4th instant, and is encamped in the vicinity.

5. To-day I have received reports stating that some of the women of the party on their way from Badwel to Cuddapah robbed houses in two villages, stealing from one articles valued at fifty odd rupees, and from the other some silver bangles, &c. The usual proceedings will be adopted upon these reports.

6. The passage of the band through the district has not in other ways been unaccompanied by disturbance. The inhabitants of certain villages in the Badwel Taluq were so alarmed at its approach, that they voluntarily abandoned their houses and fled into the jungle. They apprehended ill-usage and extortion.

7. Unless I receive instructions to the contrary, I propose, when the band is at liberty to proceed, to allow it to travel to its present destination, which is stated to be Madras. It can travel under police surveillance, and the Magistrates of the districts through which it will pass will be informed that it is *en-route*.

8. I purpose permitting it to go to Madras, because it consists of Heeratees, from the city of Heerat, and can reach that place more easily from the coast, and more quickly, than if it was turned North, and made to travel through the Presidency of Bombay and through Sind.

9. The spokesmen of the party, three in number, call themselves, respectively, Rosham Khan, Nazeef Khan, and Yar Mahomed Khan. They are not at all communicative, and give very vague aud unsatisfactory answers to the questions I put them. They aver that they are

dealers in precious stones; but their present stock in trade consists of cut-pebbles and false diamonds, and turquoises made of glass. They declare that they traffic in horses; but they have only country ponies with them. At first they said they had only one musket in their band. It turns out that there are six. They have silver bangles and silver chains round their waists, which look more like the produce of Hindoo manufacture than like ornaments made in Mussulmen communities. That their band is a band of mere beggars is probable, because one of the houses their women are reported to have robbed belongs to a co-religionist.

10. They do not describe their wanderings clearly. They say their band left Heerat two years ago, travelled by Candahar, Quetta, and the Bolan Pass to Shikarpoor in Sind, and then came South into Central India.

11. But this route does not agree with the route certain passports they produce would indicate. These documents, I should premise, are mostly personal, and do not refer to a company of travellers. The earliest of them in date is a pass granted by the Deputy Commissioner of Police at Calcutta in May 1862 to Rosham Khan to travel in the direction of Patna for two months.

12. All the other passes are dated 1864 and 1865. I gather from them that Nazeef Khan, at all events, was in the early part of the former year in the Central Provinces, at Saugor and Indore, and that later he was at Broach, Sattara, Poona, &c. He and Yar Mahomed received passes (No. 31 and 32) from the Commissioner of Police at Madras on the 4th of March 1865. There are also recent passes issued in the Mysore country, and one, dated August 23rd, granted by the Magistrate of Bellary.

13. The latter passport leads me to believe that the band may be the very company complained of as having been in Tinnevelly. If the band was in the latter district not later than the beginning of July last, there is nothing to prevent its having found its way North into the Bellary District by the end of the succeeding month. The spokesmen will not admit that it ever has travelled South of Madras, but *their* denial is nothing to the point.

14. I am disposed to believe that the nationality of the band is truly described, because the women wear the costume of the wandering tribes in Central Asia. The band consists of 60 souls, of whom 14 are men, and the remainder women and children.

ORDER THEREON.

THE Government think it better to maintain the rule laid down in their former order, and desire that this band of wandering foreigners be sent back by the Bellary District into the Bombay territory, from which it is shown by their passports that they came.

2. They should be moved on under the surveillance of the police; and the Magistrate of Bellary will communicate with the Magistrate of Dharwar on the subject, furnishing him with copy of the G. O. of the 29th September last, and of this order.

3. A separate letter will be addressed to Government of Bombay, with the suggestion that this band be deported and sent in the direction of their own country. Copy of the papers will also be forwarded for the consideration of the Supreme Government, with the expression of the opinion of this Government that steps should be taken to check the facilities of ingress and free passage which appear to exist at present for these gangs of thieving foreigners.

(True Extract.)

W. HUDLESTON,

Acting Secretary to the Govt. of Madras.

Extract from the Proceedings of the Government of Madras in the Judicial Department,—No. 1460, *dated the* 13*th October* 1865.

READ the following letter:

No. 79, dated Cape Comorin, the 6th October 1865.

From—H. NEWILL, Esq., Resident in Travancore and Cochin.

To—The Chief Secretary to the Govt. of Fort Saint George.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of the Proceedings of the Madras Government No. 1407, dated 29th ultimo, regarding the band of Heeratees which has found its way to the Southern Districts, and to state that about 40 or 50 of them, including women and children, found their way into Travancore the middle of last August.

2. The Dewan received intimation regarding them only after they had entered the Province, when I immediately telegraphed to the Magistrate of Tinnevelly, and received the enclosed explanation regarding them.

3. On their arrival at Trevandrum, as they showed no fixed determination to go on to any of the ports for embarkation, the Dewan had them escorted by the police back again, without delay, into Tinnevelly, where the rest of the party appeared to be.

4. The party were somewhat troublesome and oppressive on their way to Trevandrum, but were afterwards kept in order by the police.

5. I need scarcely add that His Highness' Government is averse to allowing any of the gang again to enter His Highness' territories.

No. .

From—A. Wedderburn, Esq., Magistrate of Tinnevelly.

To—The Resident in Travancore and Cochin.

In reply to your telegram of the 18th, received yesterday (Sunday), I have the honour to state that the persons alluded to were stated by themselves to be Heratees, who have left their country owing to a famine. They came from Madras through Trichinopoly and Madura. Some of them had passports from the former two districts, but none from the latter. They vend pebbles, are quarrelsome, but seem of no political importance. Some of the party went to Tuticorin, intending to proceed to Colombo, the other section were *en route* for Quilon. The Superintendent of Police sent parties of police to escort them through the district.

Order thereon.

Communicated to the Magistrate of Tinnevelly and to the Inspector General of Mofussil Police.

2. The Government desire to know where this band now is, and what measures are being taken in regard to it.

(True Extract)

W. HUDLESTON,

Acting Secretary to the Govt. of Madras.

No. 103 A, dated the 6th January 1866.

From—E. C. Bayley, Esq., Secretary to the Government of India, Home Department.

To—The Acting Secretary to the Government of Fort St. George.

I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter No. 1485, dated the 19th of October last, with enclosure, relative to a predatory gang of foreigners, supposed to be Heratees, found wandering about the Madras Presidency, and requesting that orders may be issued to the Government of Bombay, to which Presidency the gang is being sent under surveillance, to pass them on to their own country with the view to prevent their re-entering the Madras Presidency.

2. In reply, I am directed to point out that the Government of India is unable to take any steps with reference to the particular case of preventing foreigners entering the British Indian territories, seeing that the enclosures of your letter fail to indicate the authorities by whom passports were originally given to the party in question.

3. On the general point of giving passports to travel from one part of India to another, I am directed to add that the attention of the several Governments and Administrations will be drawn to the notification issued on the 24th November 1856.

No. 104, dated the 6th January 1866.

From—E. C. Bayley, Esq., Secretary to the Government of India, Home Department.

To—The Secretary to the Government of Bengal.

Notification dated 24th November 1856, and letter to Bengal Government of the same date.

I am directed by the Governor General in Council to draw the special attention of the Government of Bengal to the apparent breach of the orders noted in the margin regarding passports by the Calcutta Commissioner of Police as stated in paragraph 11 of a letter, dated 7th October last, from Mr. J. R. Cockerell, Acting Magistrate of Cuddapah, to the Madras Government, a copy of which is herewith forwarded.

Nos. 105 to 111, dated the 6th January 1866.

From—E. C. Bayley, Esq., Secretary to the Government of India.

To—The Secretary to the Government of Bombay.

Ditto ditto of the N. W. Provinces.

Ditto Government of the Straits Settlement.

Ditto Secretary to the Government of the Punjab.

Ditto Chief Commissioner of Oudh.

Ditto ditto of the Central Provinces.

Ditto ditto of British Burma.

* the attention of the Government of { Bombay / The N. W. Provinces / The Straits Settlements / The Punjab }

Oudh ... / Central Provinces ... / British Burma ... } your attention

It having been reported to the Government of India that a predatory gang of foreigners, supposed to be Heratees, have been wandering about the Madras Presidency, I am directed to draw * to the orders regarding passports dated the 24th of November 1856.

No. 112.

Copy forwarded to the Foreign Department for the issue of orders to the Administrations under the control of that Department.

Extract from the Proceedings of the Government of India in the Foreign Department (General),—No. 1820, *dated Simla, the* 17*th October* 1868.

READ again the undermentioned correspondence regarding a predatory gang of foreigners, supposed to be Heratees, who have been wandering about the country without any ostensible object:

Home Department Public Proceedings, January 1866, Nos. 14 to 16.

Bengal Government Political Proceedings, July 1868, Nos. 1 to 12 and Nos. 21 to 23.

Read also the following papers regarding the grant of passports to bodies of vagrant men like the above:

Docket from Home Department dated 6th January 1866, No. 112.

Office memorandum from ditto dated 9th January 1868, No. 122.

To Commissioner of Mysore, dated 17th January 1868, No. 109.

To Agent to the Governor General in Central India dated 17th January 1868, No. 110.

From ditto ditto dated 4th February 1868, No. 20 K.

To ditto ditto dated 17th ditto No. 313.

Circular dated October 1868, No.

ORDER.—Ordered, that a copy of the letter to the Commissioner of Mysore, and of the correspondence with the Agent to the Governor General in Central India, together with the draft of a proposed circular, be forwarded to the Home Department for information, and the issue of such orders as may be thought necessary. Any circular which the Home Department may think fit to issue to the Local Governments and regular Administrations should be communicated to this Department for issue to agents and political authorities at Native States.

(True Extract.)

CHARLES GIRDLESTONE,

Offg. Under Secretary to the Govt. of India,
Foreign Department.

Nos. 72—4547 to 4553, dated Simla, the 12th November 1868.

From—A. P. HOWELL, Esq., Offg. Secretary to the Government of India, Home Department.

To—The Secretary to the Government of Bombay.

Ditto	ditto	ditto	of Madras.
Ditto	ditto	ditto	of Bengal.
Ditto	ditto	ditto	of the N. W. Provinces.
Ditto	ditto	ditto	Punjab.
Ditto	Chief Commissioner of Oudh.		
Ditto	ditto	of the Central Provinces.	

THE attention of the Governor General in Council having been drawn to the fact that gangs of foreigners calling themselves Cabulees, Heratees or Khorasanees, and of doubtful, if not lawless, character, have been found wandering through several parts of India, it is considered desirable to issue some general instructions as to the mode in which such bands should be dealt with.

2. The necessity of strictly observing the orders* of Government which prohibit the issue of passports or rahdari parwanas should be impressed on all magisterial authorities.

* Foreign Department orders dated 24th November 1856, to which attention was again called in orders of Home Department Nos. 105 to 111, dated 6th January 1866.

3. The provisions of Act XXXI. of 1860 (The Arms Act) should be stringently enforced in respect of all foreigners whose occupation and means of livelihood are not removed from all suspicion.

4. Whenever it may appear to the officer in charge of a district that the presence there of any foreigners is undesirable, instead of passing them on to an adjacent district, he should submit a report of the circumstances, through the proper authority, to the Local Government, which will then, if sufficient cause be shown, deal with the case under the provisions of Sections 3 and 4, Act III. of 1864.*

* "An Act to give the Government certain powers with respect to foreigners."

5. Care must at the same time be taken that under the orders now issued no vexatious and unnecessary interference shall be exercised towards bodies of peaceable foreign merchants or traders who may visit India with the distinct aim of trafficking at particular marts or residing at particular centres of commerce and industry.

6. The Governor General in Council will not object to vest, if necessary, Chief Commissioners with the powers of a Local Government under Act III. of 1864; and should any Local Government or Administration be of opinion that the provisions of the first four sections of the Act are not sufficient check upon the evil to be redressed,

an application should be made for the extension to such territories of the remaining sections of the Act.

No. 4554.

Copy forwarded to the Foreign Department with reference to Extract from the Proceedings of that Department No. 1820, dated the 17th ultimo.

No. 4223, dated Bombay Castle, the 27th November 1869.

From—E. H. Percival, Esq., Acting Under Secretary to the Government of Bombay.

To—The Secretary to the Govt. of India.

I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of Mr. Under Secretary Howell's letter No. 1356 of the 13th September last, and, as therein requested, to forward copies of papers as per accompanying list, on the subject of the gang of foreigners who had made their appearance in the Kairah District.

LIST OF ENCLOSURES.

1. Memorandum from the Officiating Commissioner of Police, Southern Division, No. 807, dated 24th June 1869, with accompaniment.
2. Government Resolution No. 2110, dated 3rd July 1869.
3. Letter to the Government Solicitor No. 2111, dated 3rd July 1869.
4. Memorandum from the Officiating Commissioner of Police, Northern Division, Nos. 898 and 900, dated 9th July 1869.
5. Government Resolution No. 2114—2271 A, dated 14th July 1869.
6. Letter from the Government Solicitor No. 723, dated 17th July 1869.
7. Letter to the Magistrate of Kairah No. 2117—2395 A, dated 22nd July 1869.
8. Letter from the Magistrate of Kairah No. 457, dated 28th July 1869, with accompaniments.
9. Letter to the Commissioner of Police, Bombay, No. 2117C—2395A D, dated 22nd July 1869.
10. Letter from the Superintendent of Marine No. 1733, dated 27th July 1869.
11. Letter from the Commissioner of Police, Bombay, No. 1553, dated 3rd August 1869.
12. Ditto ditto No. 1587, dated 10th August 1869.
13. Reply to ditto No. 2424—2707 A, dated 16th August 1869.
14. Letter from the Commissioner of Police, Bombay, No. 1697, dated 28th August 1869.

15. Reply to ditto No. 2758, dated 2nd September 1869.
16. Letter to the Magistrate of Kairah No. 2759—2952 A, dated 5th September 1869.
17. Memorandum to ditto No. 2762—2956 A, dated 6th September 1869.
18. Letter from the Commissioner of Police, Bombay, No. 1801, dated 4th September 1869.
19. Letter to the Magistrate of Kairah No. 2763—2997 A, dated 9th September 1869.
20. Ditto to the Commissioner of Police, Bombay, No. 2764—2997 B, dated 9th September 1869.
21. Telegram to the Assistant Political Agent, Gwadur, dated 9th September 1869.
22. Letter from the Magistrate of Kairah No. 576, dated 11th September 1869.
23. Government Resolution No. 2770, dated 14th September 1869.
24. Letter to the Commissioner in Sind No. 2999, dated 15th September.
25. Memorandum from the Commissioner of Police in Sind No. 1101, dated 30th September 1869.
26. Government Resolution No. 3803, dated 4th November 1869.
27. Letter from the Magistrate of Kairah No. 603, dated 22nd September 1869.
28. Government Resolution No. 3804, dated 4th November 1869.
29. Letter from the Commissioner of Police, Bombay, No. 2429, dated 16th November 1869.
30. Government Resolution No. 4212, dated 27th November 1869.

No. 373 A, dated Kairah, the 20th June 1869.

From—G. W. Elliot, Esq., Acting District Magistrate of Kairah.

To—The Commissioner of Police, Northern Division.

I have the honour to report that a gang of foreigners, calling themselves Mukranees, Heratees, Cashmeerees, consisting of 36 men, 34 women, 24 boys, 20 girls, in all 114 souls, with 61 horses, 1 mule and 8 donkeys, have come to Kairah apparently meeting there as a rendezvous, for they did not arrive in one body.

2. Their conduct was at first somewhat impudent and overbearing. They would not say who they are, where they came from, and what is their object, and even now I am not satisfied with indistinct statements they have made on these points.

3. They have with them French imitations of gems and, what Americans would call, notions, and peddling is a part of their business; but I am inclined to think that they have other objects. Two goldsmiths of Kairah complained to the Hoozoor Deputy the other day that they had been cheated out of Rs. 750 by some of these people in a deal for gold. The facts of the case were involved in doubt, and the accused discharged; but I view their presence in these districts with considerable doubt and some apprehension. So large a body of foreigners from countries where the habits of the people are notoriously lawless is not a desirable concourse to be travelling through this part of India. The tatoos and other animals with the gang graze as they go, and in other respects property is likely to suffer.

4. Two double-barrelled guns found on them have been taken away under the provisions of the Arms Act as they had not the licenses prescribed in Sections 28 and 29 of the Act. They show an Urdu rahdari purwana, purporting to have been granted by a Deputy Commissioner, whose signature is illegible, to Roostan Khan Sodagar on 16th May 1867, for a journey from Jhansie to Lucknow. Something is said in it about two guns, but it is not a purwana, nor are other Persian and Urdu papers which they show, dated as far back as 1862, rahdaris or purwanas.

5. I find in paragraph 4 of a letter of the Government of India noted in the margin with other correspondence relating to it, that "whenever it may appear to the officer in charge of a district that the presence there of foreigners is undesirable, instead of passing them on to an adjacent district, he should submit a report of the circumstances through the proper authority to the Local Government, which will then, if sufficient cause be shown, deal with the case under the provisions of *Sections* 3 *and* 4 *of Act III. of* 1864", and I therefore send this report to you in order that you may communicate with Government as to the disposal of these people who are now at Kairah, where I have detained them pending an answer to this.

Notification No. 1729, dated 24th November 1856.
Letter No. 72—4548, dated 12th November 1868, communicated in Bombay Government Resolution No. 3515 of 8th December 1868.

6. I request that you will act as speedily as possible. The rains are at hand, and I have nowhere to shelter the women and children with the gang; besides it is hard on these people to keep them waiting, as they will be put to expense and annoyance which, although unavoidable, must be a matter of regret.

No. 807, dated Poona, the 24th June 1869.

Endorsed by the Offg. Commr. of Police, Northern Division, Bombay.

SUBMITTED to Government for orders under Sections 2 and 3 of Act III. of 1864.

Extract from the Proceedings of the Government of Bombay, Judicial Department,—No. 136 *L, under date the* 3*rd July* 1869.

READ memorandum from the Officiating Commissioner of Police, Northern Division, No. 807, dated 24th June 1869, submitting for orders, under Sections 2 and 3 of Act III. of 1864, a letter from the Acting Magistrate of Kairah, reporting that a gang of foreigners, calling themselves Mukranees, Heratees, Cashmeerees, consisting of 36 men, 34 women, 24 boys and 20 girls, in all 114 souls, with 61 horses, 1 mule and 8 donkeys, have come to Kairah apparently meeting there as a rendezvous, for they did not arrive in one body, and requesting instructions as to the disposal of these people.

RESOLUTION.—It seems that these foreigners have refused to tell the Magistrate where they desire to go to, but it is possible further enquiry may elicit more from them.

2. It is a case to which the despatch No. 72—4548 of the Government of India applies, and Government thinks it should act in accordance with the provisions of Act III. of 1864.

3. So far as Government is aware the provisions of Section 5 and the subsequent sections of the Act have not been notified by the Government of India as in force in this Presidency, and so all that Government can legally do is to deal with them under Sections 3 and 4. These sections only authorize Government to direct each adult foreigner in writing to remove himself or herself by a particular route from British India, and if they neglect or refuse to do this, to detain them in safe custody till Government think fit to discharge them. It would seem that in similar instances persons of this description have been separately deported, but Government is not aware under what law this has been done. The Magistrate should be ordered to detain these persons till further orders, and in the meanwhile the opinion of the Government law officers should be obtained on the question whether Government has authority to deport these persons. The Magistrate should also be directed to ascertain where these persons desire to go, and, if possible, to find out whence they have come.

(True Extract.)

J. JARDINE,

Acting Under Secretary to the Govt. of Bombay.

* * * * * *

Dated Kairah, the 6th July 1869.

From—G. W. ELLIOT, Esq., Acting Magistrate of Kairah.

To—Officiating Police Commissioner, Northern Division.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge receipt of the Government Resolution No. 136 L of 3rd July 1869, in the matter of the foreigners at

Kairah. In obedience with its instructions I have again had before me the headmen of the gang, and they state that they left Hyderabad, in Sind, some seven months ago, that they went to Kurrachee, thence to Bhooj on to Joonaghur, and so here, *viâ* Dundooka and Dolka. This is perhaps true as they came from that direction; but I do not believe that their intention was, as they now state it, to go to Cambay, buy stones, &c., and then go to Ajmere. A few days ago, they said that Hyderabad, in the Deccan, would be their destination after leaving Cambay, where probably they intended to go. But, however true or false their statements may be, one thing is certain,—they are persons of thoroughly lawless habits. The last of several complaints against them is one preferred to-day by the Superintendent of Police who caught three of their women stealing his fowls. They are strong powerful men that would overawe natives of these parts, and I am very loth to turn them loose upon the country, at the same time their continuance here is more than inconvenient. No rain has yet fallen, there is not a blade of grass in the Collectorate, and the price of grain is rising rapidly which makes it difficult for them to feed their animals. They have, I know, means of buying food, but complain bitterly of their detention in a very dear place, and these are considerations which, I trust, you will place before Government to show how urgently necessary it is to send the gang elsewhere.

No. 898, dated Poona, the 9th July 1869.

Endorsed by the Officiating Commissioner of Police, Northern Division.

SUBMITTED to Government for information in continuation of the Commissioner of Police's No. 807, dated 24th ultimo, and in reference to Government letter No. 136 L, dated 3rd instant.

No. 418, dated Kairah, the 5th July 1869.

From—G. W. ELLIOT, Esq., Acting District Magistrate of Kairah.

To—The Officiating Police Commissioner, Northern Division.

IN continuation of my No. 373 of 20th ultimo, concerning some foreigners who have been detained here, I have the honour to state the Civil Surgeon tells me that several of them have been to him complaining of fever and diarrhœa, and that the cases were severe. As the weather is and has been for some time unusually trying, and I have been able to make an arrangement for sheltering the foreigners which should only be temporary, and that for a time not exceeding a month at the longest, I think it right to press for a speedy settlement of the question,—what is to be done with the gang? Fortunately there is no cholera about, but Dr. Cooke is apprehensive about the cases that have come to him, which might go into a choleraic epidemic form.

2. I have also to ask whether the gang is to receive subsistence allowance? If so, at what rate? and from what source, and I to pay it? An extraordinary bill could be sent in, but it would require special sanction of Government.

3. I have just ascertained from the Deputy Magistrate that a woman of the gang admitted before him in course of a criminal investigation that her husband was transported from Calcutta about two years ago, and that about that time some 11 to 13 of her companions, some of whom I believe are here now, were deported from Calcutta to their own country.

No. 899, dated Poona, the 9th July 1869.

Endorsed by the Officiating Commissioner of Police, Northern Division.

The telegram sent by the Police Commissioner on the 3rd instant, as well as the Government letter No. 136L, dated 3rd idem, must have informed the Magistrate that the foreigners are to be detained at Kairah.

2. The Magistrate's present letter will also be submitted to Government; meanwhile as regards batta, if the Magistrate considers that these foreigners are in indigent circumstances, he should allow them the usual rates of subsistance allowance, charging for the same in a contingent bill.

No. 900.

Submitted to Government for information in reference to the Commissioner of Police, Northern Division's No. 898 of to-day's date.

Extract from the Proceedings of the Government of Bombay in the Judicial Department,—No. 2114, *under date Bombay Castle, the* 14*th July* 1869.

Read memorandum from the Officiating Commissioner of Police, Northern Division, No. 900, dated 9th July 1869, forwards, with reference to his memorandum No. 898 of 1869, a letter from the Acting Magistrate of Kairah, requesting a speedy settlement of the question of the disposal of the gang of foreigners calling themselves Mukranees, Heeratees and Cashmeerees.

Resolution—The Officiating Police Commissioner should be informed that his proceedings are approved, and that the foreigners should be detained at Kairah till Government issue final orders respecting them, which orders will be made on the receipt of the opinion of the Advocate General.

(True Extract.)

J. JARDINE,

Acting Under Secretary to the Govt. of Bombay.

No. 723, dated Bombay, the 17th July 1869.

From—R. V. HEARN, Esq., Solicitor to the Govt. of Bombay.

To—The Acting Under Secretary to the Govt. of Bombay.

I HAVE the honour to enclose a copy of the opinion No. 36 of the Honourable the Advocate General upon the question submitted in your letter No. 2111 of the 3rd instant.

* * * * * *

No. 2117 C, dated Bombay Castle, the 22nd July 1869.

From—J. JARDINE, Esq., Acting Under Secretary to the Government of Bombay, Judicial Department.

To—The Commissioner of Police, Bombay.

I AM directed to request that you will have the goodness to state, as soon as possible, what is the earliest date at which means of transport can be found to take to Gwadur or any other port of the Mekran coast, a gang* of foreigners to have come to Kairah, and whether Surat is not the best place from which to direct their embarkation.

* 36 men.
34 women.
24 boys.
20 girls.
———
114
———

No. 2117 D.

THE same to the Superintendent of Her Majesty's Bombay Marine.

No. 1733, dated Bombay, the 27th July 1869.

From—G. ROBINSON, Esq., Commander, Indian Navy, Superintendent of Marine.

To—The Acting Under Secretary to the Govt. of Bombay, Judicial Department.

IN reply to your letter No. 2117D of the 22nd instant, I have the honour to inform you that Native craft (which might be procured by the local authorities) should be engaged at Surat for the conveyance of the party therein referred to about the 15th September next, which port would be the most desirable for embarkation.

No. 1553, dated Bombay, the 3rd August 1869.

From—F. H. SOUTER, Esq., Commissioner of Police, Bombay.

To—The Acting Under Secretary to the Government of Bombay, Judicial Department.

WITH reference to your memorandum No. 2413 of the 2nd instant, I have the honour to state that I at once addressed the Superintendent of

Police, Surat, to ascertain whether the gang of foreigners mentioned in Government letter No. 2117C of the 22nd ultimo, can be conveniently despatched from that port to Mekran, and when; and am awaiting that officer's reply which I have to-day called upon him to expedite.

The buglas and dows do not, as a rule, put out from Bombay for the Mekran coast before the middle of October, but there are steamers running to the Persian Gulf every fortnight from Bombay, and they touch at Gwadur.

No. 1587, dated Bombay, the 10th August 1869.

From—F. H. Souter, Esq., Commissioner of Police, Bombay.

To—The Acting Under Secretary to the Government of Bombay, Judicial Department.

In continuation of my letter No. 1553 of the 3rd instant, to your address, I have the honour to report that I am in receipt of a reply from the District Superintendent of Police, Surat, in which that officer states that boats do not ply between Surat and the coast of Mekran.

2. As it seems necessary therefore that the gang of foreigners should be despatched *viâ* Bombay, I beg to solicit instructions as to whether passage should be engaged for them at once per British India Steam Navigation Company's steamer, or by Native craft after the close of the monsoon.

3. In either case I would beg to recommend that these vagrants be kept up-country until the arrangements for their embarkation have been completed, as there is no place in Bombay where they could conveniently be kept.

No. 2424, dated Bombay Castle, the 16th August 1869.

From—J. Jrdaine, Esq., Acting Under Secretary to the Govt. of Bombay, Judicial Dept.

To—The Commissioner of Police, Bombay.

Adverting to your letter No. 1587, dated 10th instant, I am directed to request that you will have the goodness to report what would be the cost of sending the gang of foreigners alluded to in the Government letter No. 2117C of the 22nd ultimo, by the British India Steam Navigation Company's steamer, and on what dates these steamers leave, and whether the expense of this method of transport would be greatly in excess of the cost that would be incurred if the party of foreigners were sent to their destination by Native craft subsequent to the close of the monsoon.

No. 1697, dated Bombay, the 28th August 1869.

From—F. H. SOUTER, Esq., Commissioner of Police, Bombay.

To—The Acting Under Secretary to the Government of Bombay, Judicial Dept.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge receipt of your letter No. 2424, dated 16th instant.

2. In reply I beg to forward copy of a letter received by me from Messrs. Nicol and Company, stating the terms on which they are willing to convey to Gwadur the foreigners mentioned in your letter No. 2117C, dated 22nd July 1869.

3. I am of opinion that these terms are reasonable, and that no better arrangements can be made for their conveyance by country craft.

4. As the steamer *Abyssinia* leaves this on the 4th proximo, I request that the orders of Government in the matter may be communicated to me with the least practicable delay.

No. 589, dated Bombay, the 25th August 1869.

From—Messrs. W. NICOL AND COMPANY.

To—The Commissioner of Police, Bombay.

WE are in receipt of your No. 1669 of 1869 regarding the conveyance of 114 Mukranees to Gwadur.

Our usual rate to Gwadur without food is Rs. 20 per head for adults, but we shall be glad to carry these people by the steam ship *Abyssinia* leaving Bombay on Saturday, the 4th September next, for the sum of Rs. 1,500 including food.

No. 2758, dated Bombay Castle, the 2nd September 1869.

From—J. JARDINE, Esq., Acting Under Secretary to the Govt. of Bombay, Judicial Dept.

To—The Commissioner of Police, Bombay.

I AM directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter No. 1697, dated 28th ultimo, and accompaniment, and in reply to inform you that it is not possible in so short an interim to send to Gwadur the foreigners mentioned in Government letter No. 2117C, dated 22nd July last, by the steamer *Abyssinia* which leaves Bombay on the 4th instant. Government, however, purpose sending them by the next steamer. I am therefore to request that you will have the goodness to state at the earliest possible time when the next steamer for Gwadur will leave Bombay, and whether Messrs. Nicol and Company will take them on on the same terms, and also whether these steamers go once a week.

No. 2759, dated Bombay Castle, the 5th September 1869.

From—J. JARDINE, Esq., Acting Under Secretary to the Govt. of Bombay, Judicial Dept.

To—The Magistrate of Kairah.

I AM directed to forward to you 38 orders issued under Section 3 of Act III. of 1864, requiring the principal men of the gang of foreigners at Kairah to remove themselves from British India by rail to Bombay, and thence by sea.

2. I am also to inform you that Government are in treaty with Messrs. Nicol and Company for the passage of the whole gang—men, women and children—from Bombay to the port of Gwadur, and that Government intend to bear the expenses of their deportation. The date on which the steamer sails will be communicated to you at the earliest possible time, in order that you may make arrangements for the despatch of the gang.

3. Although the persons ordered to remove themselves cannot be arrested unless they shall have failed to obey within the time specified in the order, it will be necessary to make arrangements for preserving the peace by sending an escort of police with the foreigners to Bombay, and giving early intimation to the Police Commissioner there, in order that he may place a surveillance upon them. The date when they should be despatched to Bombay will be communicated to you.

4. I am to request that you will take measures for disposal of their tatoos and any other property which they cannot take with them. The proceeds should be handed over to the Police Commissioner, Bombay, to forward to the Assistant Political Agent at Gwadur to pay over to them on arrival there, by which means they will not be disembarked without some certain provision.

5. As arrangements will be made with Messrs. Nicol and Company for their passage, I am desired to add that in case they should refuse to comply with the order issued, you will apprehend them under Section 4 and forward them to the Police Commissioner, Bombay, for despatch by the steamer, whose date of sailing is to be communicated to you. It will probably sail on Saturday, the 18th instant.

Memorandum No. 2762, dated Bombay Castle, the 6th September 1869.

THE undersigned presents compliments, and in continuation of his letter No. 2759, dated 5th instant, has the honour to forward to the Magistrate of Kairah 37 orders issued under Section 3 of Act III. of 1864, requiring the women of the gang of foreigners at Kairah to remove themselves from British India by rail to Bombay, and thence by sea.

J. JARDINE,

Acting Under Secretary to the Govt. of Bombay,

Judicial Dept.

No. 1801, dated Bombay, the 4th September 1869.

From—F. H. SOUTER, Esq., Commissioner of Police, Bombay.

To—The Acting Under Secretary to the Government of Bombay, Judicial Department.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter No. 2758, dated 2nd instant, and in reply beg to state that Messrs. Nicol and Company are willing to convey the foreigners to Gwadur by the steamer leaving Bombay on the 18th instant on the terms mentioned in my letter No. 1697, dated 28th ultimo.

18th September.
1st November.
15th do.
29th do.
13th December.
27th do.

Their steamers on the Persian Gulf line leave Bombay every fortnight, and on the dates shown in the margin.

No. 2763, dated Bombay Castle, the — September 1869.

From—J. JARDINE, Esq., Acting Under Secretary to the Government of Bombay, Judicial Department.

To—The District Magistrate of Kairah.

WITH reference to my letter No. 2759, dated 5th instant, I am directed to forward the accompanying copy of a letter from the Commissioner of Police, Bombay, and to request that you will arrange for the foreigners to arrive in Bombay so as to be in time to go by the steamer which sails on the 18th instant, and put yourself in communication with the Police Commissioner, Bombay, regarding arrangements.

No. 2764, dated Bombay Castle, the 8th September 1869.

From—J. JARDINE, Esq., Acting Under Secretary to the Government of Bombay, Judicial Department.

To—The Commissioner of Police, Bombay.

I AM directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter No. 1801, dated 4th instant, and in reply to inform you that a copy of your letter has been forwarded to the Magistrate of Kairah, who has been directed to forward the foreigners to Bombay so as to be in time to go by the steamer which leaves Bombay on the 18th instant.

2. I am at the same time desired to request that you will communicate to the Magistrate of Kairah the hour at which these steamers leave, and that you will send a small party of police with the foreigners to Gwadur on board the steamer to prevent any disturbance.

3. I am also to state that it appears from the list furnished by the Magistrate of Kairah since the Government letter No. 2117C of 22nd ultimo was forwarded to you that there are—

38 men,

37 women and

44 children.

In all 119 instead of 114.

Telegram dated the 8th September 1869.

From—Poona.	To—Gwadur.
From—Secretary JARDINE.	To—Assistant Political Agent.

ONE hundred and nineteen foreigners, Mukranees and others, will be deported to Gwadur by the steamer leaving on 18th instant. No restraint or interference should be exercised with regard to them after they have been landed.

No. 576, dated Kairah, the 11th September 1869.

From—G. W. ELLIOT, Esq., District Magistrate of Kairah.

To—The Secretary to the Government of Bombay, Judicial Department.

I RECEIVED this morning a letter No. 2763 of 8th instant, from Mr. Jardine, Under Secretary to the Government, Judicial Department, telling me to despatch to Bombay a gang of foreigners who have been detained at Kairah for some time, so that they may leave by the Kurrachee steamer sailing on the 18th instant, arrangements having been made with Messrs. Nicol and Company to land them at Gwadur.

2. Immediately on receipt of another letter No. 2759 of 5th instant, from Mr. Jardine, conveying to me the first instructions I received concerning the despatch of these people, I wrote to Mr. Jardine, telling him that although all the women and children of the gang are here, most of the men are away, and that it would take about 20 days to collect them. I now write to you to reach Government as directly as possible in order to my receiving immediate instructions on the following points:

1st.—If the gang is to go by the steamer of the 18th from Bombay, they must leave this by the train of the 16th. But on that date there will not be collected more than from 15 to 20 of the 38 men of the gang. Are the women and children, all of whom (37 women and 44 children) are here, to be sent with such of the men as may be present?

2nd.—Shall I send the families only which may have their men with them, retaining fatherless families here to be sent on hereafter when their men come in, which they will probably do in course of the next 15 to 20 days?

3. I must very seriously direct the attention of Government to this fact, that the roll of this people which I sent in describes them as Cashmerees, as they say they are, and they are now asking with great anxiety why they are to be sent away from Bombay by sea. I have not told them that they are to go to Gwadur, because I noticed the words to "Gwadur" had been erased in the notices sent by Government for service on the gang. But I feel it to be a very grave duty I have to perform to tell Government that 81 of the party are women and children, the latter, most of them, of very tender age; and therefore, if they are sent to Gwadur, even with their natural protectors, it is likely to go very hard with them. But if some of the families go without the men belonging to them, they will be exposed to terrible risks, which I feel certain Government would be very loath they should incur.

4. I write urgently on this subject. Mr. Jardine's first letter, directing the removal of the gang, only reached me on the 7th instant. and it was not till to-day that I heard the steamer was to leave on the 18th instant. I have not had time to collect the gang. It is obvious that I could only retain at Kairah the women and children, and I am sure that they ought not to be sent away without their husbands and fathers. I await a telegram from you in answer to the questions I have put in my 2nd paragraph; and if I do not hear from you before the morning of the 16th instant, I shall send to Bombay only such of the families as may have their men with them.

I venture to suggest that these people should not be sent to Gwadur, whence it would be very difficult for them to find their way to Cashmere; perhaps it would be better to send them to Kurrachee, and pass them on to Cashmere *viâ* the Indus.

Extract from the Proceedings of the Government of Bombay, Judicial Department,—No. 2770, *under date Bombay Castle, the* 14*th September* 1869.

Read—

Letter from the Magistrate of Kairah, No. 576, dated 11th September 1869, requesting instructions on certain points connected with the despatch of the foreigners who have been detained at Kairah.

Resolution.—A telegram should be sent to the Magistrate of Kairah to transmit on 16th to Bombay as many of the men as he may be able to remove with the women and families belonging to them and no others. He should at once telegraph to the Commissioner of Police, Bombay, the precise number of men, women and children whom he proposes to send.

2. A telegram should also be sent to Commissioner of Police, Bombay, informing him that probably not more than half the number

of persons mentioned in former communication can be sent by the steamer of the 18th, and directing him to apprize Messrs. Nicol and Company of this circumstance, and to state that a passage will be required for them to Kurrachee, and not to Gwadur as formerly ordered. Mr. Souter should make the best arrangement he can with Messrs. Nicol and Company under the circumstances.

3. The Commissioner in Sind should be informed by letter and telegraph of the proposed despatch of these persons, and same instructions given to him as were sent to Political Agent at Gwadur. A brief account of the reasons which have led to the deportation of these persons should also be sent to him.

4. The Magistrate of Kairah should be asked whether the remainder of these foreigners might not be allowed to leave his district in small parties at a time without danger to the public.

(True Extract.)

J. JARDINE,

Acting Under Secretary to the Govt. of Bombay,
Judicial Dept.

No. 2999, dated Bombay Castle, the 15th September 1869.

From—J. Jardine, Esq., Acting Under Secretary to the Govt. of Bombay, Judicial Department.

To—The Commissioner in Sind.

With reference to the Government telegram sent to you on the 14th instant, I am directed to forward to you a copy of Government Resolution No. 2770 of the same date, together with brief account of the reasons which had led to the deportation of the foreigners therein alluded to. The instructions which were sent to the Assistant Political Agent at Gwadur were to the effect that no restraint or interference should be exercised with regard to these persons after they have been landed.

No. 698, dated Kurrachee, the 24th September 1869.

From—Lieutenant-Colonel E. Marston, District Superintendent of Police, Kurrachee.

To—The Commissioner of Police in Sind.

In returning correspondence forwarded with your memorandum No. 1056, dated 26th September 1869, I have the honour to inform you that the so-called Cashmeree Mukranees have been deported from Kurrachee on several occasions, and always find their way back.

2. One of their head men laughed when I recognized him, and said that Kurrachee was his country.

3. These men are a species of gypsies; they are by no means paupers, and profess to deal in pearls, stones, and also are horse dealers. They never remain for any length of time in one place.

4. I consider that it is a useless expense to be continually deporting them and sending them towards Cashmere, which is merely their nominal country. They no sooner get there then they start on fresh expeditions, and work their way through Central India into the Madras and Bombay Presidencies.

5. The police are well able to deal with these men should they infringe the law.

6. I told the head men that if they gave the slightest trouble they would be summarily dealt with and compelled to give security.

Memorandum No. 1101, dated Kurrachee, the 30th September 1869.

True copy submitted to Government in reference to their letter No. 2999, dated 15th instant.

2. The so-called Mukranees are natives of Persia, and this class of people have been known in Sind for years. They are gypsies, and money expended on their deportation is simply thrown away. The Commissioner has expressed his approval of the mode in which the District Superintendent of Police proposes to deal with the men.

W. L. MEREWETHER, *Colonel*,
Commissioner of Police, Sind.

Extract from the Proceedings of the Government of Bombay, Judicial Department,—No. 3803, *dated Bombay Castle, the* 4*th November* 1869.

Read—

Memorandum from the Commissioner of Police in Sind, No. 1101, dated 30th September 1869, submitting, with reference to Government letter No. 2999, dated 15th September last, copy of a letter from the Superintendent of Police at Kurrachee, and stating that the Mukranees referred to are natives of Persia, and that this class of people have been known in Sind for years. They are a species of gypsies, and are by no means paupers, and profess to deal in pearls, stones and horses, and never remain for any length of time in one place. Adding that money expended on their deportation is, therefore, simply thrown away.

Resolution.—Government does not think that the Sind authorities show that there is no need for the deportation of these men. They may not do so much mischief in Sind as they do in the more settled parts of India, owing to the more warlike habits of the population on the frontier, and their being better able to resist any extortionate proceedings which may be commenced by wandering gangs of this descrip-

tion. These gangs undoubtedly do mischief in the Regulation Provinces, and their removal is a public good.

2. With the view of ascertaining what ultimately becomes of this gang, the Commissioner in Sind should be instructed to cause the movements of these men to be watched, and to state where they have gone to at the end of six months.

3. He should also be asked, with reference to the 1st paragraph of the Superintendent of Police's letter, to state to what places these men were previously deported from Kurrachee, and when.

(True Extract.)

J. JARDINE,

Acting Under Secretary to the Govt. of Bombay,
Judicial Dept.

No. 603, dated Kairah, the 22nd September 1869.

From—G. W. Elliot, Esq., District Magistrate of Kairah.

To—The Secretary to the Government of Bombay, Judicial Department.

In continuation of the correspondence concerning the Cashmerees at Kairah, I have the honour to report that the male members of families who were not present when the greater part of the gang was sent to Bombay have come here, and are anxiously waiting to be sent to Kurrachee to rejoin the others who are there now.

2. The last Government Resolution No. 2770, dated 14th instant, on this subject, suggests that the remainder of the gang might be sent to their homes in small parties; but I venture to submit that to send them to Kurrachee *viâ* Bombay by the next steamer leaving for that port would be a preferable plan. The gang are in a large measure dependent on one another, and those that are left here would feel being separated from their companions very much. The large number of women and children concerned will, I have no doubt, recommend the course I submit for the approval of Government, and in that case the sooner it is acted on the better, because it is difficult to keep the male members of the gang together, as they are dependent on their own efforts for the support of their families, and they will soon have to wander about the country selling beads, &c.

3. I should mention that the party to be despatched to Kurrachee consists of 13 men, 10 women, and 11 children,—in all 40.

Extract from the Proceedings of the Government of Bombay, Judicial Department,—No. 3804, *dated Bombay Castle, the 4th November* 1869.

READ—

Letter from the Magistrate of Kairah, No. 603, dated 22nd September 1869, reporting that the male members of the families of Cashmerees at Kairah, with some women and children, who were not present when the greater part of the gang was sent to Bombay, have come to Kairah, and suggesting that they be also sent to Kurrachee to enable them to rejoin their companions.

RESOLUTION.—The Magistrate of Kairah should be requested to put himself in communication with the Commissioner of Police, Bombay, in making arrangements for the despatch of the remainder of the gang of foreigners to Kurrachee *viâ* Bombay as cheaply and expeditiously as possible.

(True Extract.)

J. JARDINE,

Acting Uuder Secretary to the Govt. of Bombay,
Judicial Dept.

No. 2429, dated Bombay, the 16th November 1869.

From—F. H. SOUTER, Esq., Commissioner of Police, Bombay.

To—The Acting Under Secretary to the Government of Bombay, Judicial Department.

WITH reference to Government Resolution, Judicial Department, No. 3804, dated 4th instant, I have the honour to report, for the information of His Excellency the Right Honourable the Governor in Council, that 42 Mukranees, as per margin, were received by me from the District Magistrate of Kairah, and despatched yesterday by the steam ship *Oriental* to Kurrachee.

14 men.
16 women.
12 children.
—
42 Total.
—

2. A guard of one police havildar and three privates was sent in charge of the foreigners.

3. The lowest sum for which Messrs. Nicol and Company would consent to convey the party to Kurrachee, including provisions, was Rs. 523, and as these terms seemed reasonable, I accepted them, and shall, I beg to state, in due time submit a bill for the expense incurred.

Extract from the Proceedings of the Government of Bombay in the Judicial Department,—No. 4212, *dated Bombay Castle, the* 27*th November* 1869.

READ—

Letter from the Commissioner of Police, Bombay, No. 2429, dated 16th November 1869, reporting, with reference to Government Resolution No. 3804, dated 4th November 1869, that 42 Mukranees, as per margin, were received by him from the Magistrate of Kairah, and despatched on the 15th November 1869 by the steam ship *Oriental* to Kurrachee. A guard of one police havildar and three privates was sent in charge of the foreigners. Stating that the lowest sum for which Messrs. Nicol and Company would consent to convey the party to Kurrachee, including provisions, was Rs. 523, and as these terms seemed reasonable, he accepted them, and that he will submit a bill for the expense incurred in due time.

14 men.
16 women.
12 children.
—
42 Total.
—

RESOLUTION.—Mr. Souter's proceedings are approved.

(True Extract.)

E. H. PERCIVAL,

Acting Under Secretary to the Govt. of Bombay,
Judicial Dept.

No. 4390, dated Bombay Castle, the 9th December 1869.

From—E. H. PERCIVAL, Esq., Acting Under Secretary to the Government of Bombay, Judicial Department.

To—The Secretary to the Govt. of India, Home Department.

IN continuation of the Proceedings of this Government regarding a gang of foreigners which made its appearance in the Kairah District, forwarded to you with my letter No. 4223, dated 27th November 1869, I am directed to transmit, for the information of the Government of India, copies of further papers on the subject as noted in the margin.

Memorandum from the Commissioner of Police in Sind, No. 1315, dated 23rd November 1869, with accompaniments.

No. 854, dated Kurrachee, the 17th November 1869.

From—Lieutenant-Colonel E. C. MARSTON, District Superintendent of Police, Kurrachee.

To—The Commissioner in Sind.

WITH reference to your endorsement No. 1244 of 1869, dated 10th November, forwarding Government Resolution No. 3803 of 1869, I

have the honour to report that gangs of Mekranees visited Kurrachee in the years 1855, 1857, 1862, and 1866, and were sent across the frontier into Beloochistan.

2. On one of these occasions they took boat at Soon-Meanee and proceeded to Mangalore. On other occasions they made their way through the Punjab into Hindoostan.

3. I append for information copy of communication No. 795 of 1869, dated 28th October, I made to the Superintendents of Hyderabad and Shikarpore Police, transmitting for their information the whole of the correspondence on the subject.

4. The report called for at the end of six months can only be obtained from the Punjab authorities, as the Mekranees will doubtless pass through that Province, unless they slip through Jeysulmere or Joudpore.

Memorandum No. 795, dated Kurrachee, the 28th October 1869.

The accompanying correspondence is forwarded for the perusal of the District Superintendent of Police, Hyderabad.

The arrival of a portion of the gang at Kotree has been reported. They express their intention of proceeding through the Hyderabad Collectorate; should they do so, they should be watched by the police, and compelled to adopt the route ordered by the Commissioner.

The Superintendent of Police, Kurrachee, would feel much obliged if Captain Crawford would advise the Superintendent of Shikarpore Police of the movements of these people, should they go through the Hyderabad District.

E. C. MARSTON, *Lieut.-Col.*,
District Supdt. of Police, Kurrachee.

Memorandum No. 393, dated Hyderabad, the 13th November 1869.

Referring to the District Superintendent of Police, Kurrachee's No. 795, dated 28th ultimo, and the correspondence accompanying it, the District Superintendent of Police, Hyderabad, has the honour to state that the gang of so-called Cashmerees having now left Hyderabad, the correspondence has been forwarded to the District Superintendent of Police, Shikarpore, who has been requested to return it after perusal to Colonel Marston.

2. The Chief Constable of Kundiarah has been directed to report direct to the Superintendent of Police, Shikarpore, the date on which the gang may leave the Hyderabad District on the Northern boundary.

R. J. CRAWFORD, *Captain*,
District Supdt. of Police, Hyderabad.

Memorandum No. 870, dated Kurrachee, the 19th November 1869.

True copy forwarded for the information of the Commissioner of Police in Sind, in reference to this Office No. 854 of 1869, dated 17th November.

E. C. MARSTON, *Lieut.-Col.,*
District Supdt. of Police, Kurrachee.

Memorandum No. 1315, dated Camp Thuth, the 23rd November 1869.

True copies submitted to Government for information in reference to their Resolution No. 3803, dated the 4th instant.

W. L. MEREWETHER, *Colonel,*
Commr. of Police in Sind.

No. 1817, dated the 16th December 1869.

From—E. C. Bayley, Esq., Secretary to the Government of India, Home Department.

To—The Secretary to the Government of Bombay.

With reference to your letter No. 4223, dated the 27th ultimo, submitting papers relative to a gang of foreigners who had made their appearance in the Kairah District, I am directed to enquire whether His Excellency the Governor in Council would wish the provisions of the remaining sections of Act III. of 1864* to be extended to Sind in order to prevent foreigners travelling about without a license.

* An act to give the Government certain powers with respect to foreigners.

*　　*　　*　　*　　*

No. 57, dated Bombay Castle, the 14th February 1870.

From—W. Wedderburn, Esq., Acting Secretary to the Government of Bombay.

To—The Offg. Secretary to the Government of India, Foreign Department.

In reply to Mr. Bayley's letter in the Home Department (Judicial), No. 1817, dated the 16th December last, I am directed to state that this Government would wish the provisions of the remaining sections of Act III. of 1864 to be extended to Sind in order to prevent foreigners travelling in the Province without license.

No. 452 P, dated the 9th March 1870.

Endorsed by the Foreign Department.

Transferred to the Home Department for disposal.

Office Memorandum No. 2049, dated Simla, the 23rd April 1870.

WITH reference to the endorsement from the Foreign Department No. 452 P, dated 9th ultimo, the undersigned is directed to enquire whether there is any objection in that Department to the extension to Sind of the provision of Sections 5 to 25 of Act III. of 1864 in order to prevent foreigners travelling about without a license.

2. A copy of the previous correspondence* with the Government of Bombay on the subject is enclosed.

* Judicial Proceedings, 15th January 1870, Nos. 65 to 68.

E. C. BAYLEY,
Secretary to the Govt. of India,
Home Dept.

To the Foreign Department.

Office Memorandum No. 99 J, dated Simla, the 24th June 1870.

IN reply to the memorandum from the Home Department No. 2049, dated 23rd April 1870, the undersigned is directed to state that the Viceroy and Governor General in Council in this Department is entirely opposed to the extension of Sections 5 to 25 of Act III. of 1864 to Sind, or any other part of the Bombay Presidency. From Section 6, which directs every foreigner, on arriving at any part of India where all the provisions of the Act are in force, to report himself to the Commissioner of Police or Magistrate, and Sections 9, 10 and 14, which subject a foreigner to be apprehended if he fails to report himself, His Excellency in Council is of opinion that the Act in question was meant to be used in times of great political disturbance. His Excellency in Council can hardly imagine a less judicious exercise of a high prerogative than to subject every foreigner landing at Kurrachee to such provisions for the sake of gaining a very doubtful right to deal with a few vagrants, who seem not to be foreigners at all, and with whom, as stated by the Commissioner of Sind in his memorandum dated 30th September 1869, the police are quite competent to deal. The correspondence forwarded with the office memorandum under acknowledgment also seems to show that it is a useless expense to deport gypsies, who are sure to return by a different route.

2. As the solution of the matter, therefore, which most commends itself to the judgment of the Viceroy and Governor General in Council in this Department, the Bombay Government might be informed that, if they cannot deal with the gypsies in the ordinary way, it is perfectly competent to them to pass a Bill in their own Legislature for the suppression of vagrancy in the Bombay Presidency. This would be at once more effectual and better suited to the exigency of the case, such as it is, than the proposed extension of Sections 5 to 25 of Act III. of 1864.

C. U. AITCHISON,
Offg. Secretary to the Govt. of India,
Foreign Dept.

To the Home Department.

No. 3330, dated Simla, the 16th July 1870.

From—E. C. BAYLEY, Esq., C. S. I., Secretary to the Government of India.

To—The Secretary to the Government of Bombay.

I AM directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter No. 57, dated the 14th February last, to the address of the Government of India in the Foreign Department, and in reply to state that, on a careful re-consideration of the whole question, the Governor General in Council is opposed to the extension of Sections 5 to 25 of Act III. of 1864 to Sind, or any other part of the Bombay Presidency.

2. The Governor General in Council believes that the provisions of this enactment were intended to be used only in times of great political disturbance, and that it would be inexpedient to take so large and arbitrary a power against all foreigners for the sake of gaining a perhaps doubtful right to deal with a few vagrants, not ordinarily dangerous in a political sense, and who may not, at any rate in all cases, be foreigners at all. The correspondence before the Government of India also seems to show that it is a useless expense to deport gypsies, who are sure to return by a different route.

3. The solution of the matter which best commends itself to the judgment of the Governor General in Council is that, if the gypsies cannot be dealt with in the ordinary way, the Local Government should pass a Bill in its own Legislature for the suppression of vagrancy in the Bombay Presidency. This would be at once more effectual and better suited to the exigency of the case, such as it is, than the proposed extension of Sections 5 to 25 of Act III. of 1864.

Office Memorandum No. 1777, dated Simla, the 6th September 1869.

WITH reference to the circular of the Home Department dated the 12th November 1868, No. 724547—53, the undersigned is directed to forward a copy of a letter* from the Officiating Chief Commissioner, Central Provinces, of its enclosures, and of a Note by the Assistant Secretary, relative to two bands of foreigners who were lately found wandering in the Districts of Baitool and Nimar.

* No. 2284—242, dated 28th July 1869.

2. These papers were called for in consequence of an entry in the Abstract of the Proceedings of the Officiating Chief Commissioner for the week ending 19th June 1869.

C. GIRDLESTONE,

Offg. Under Secretary to the Govt. of India, Foreign Dept.

To the Home Department.

No. 2284—242, dated the 28th July 1869.

From—J. NEILL, Esq., Offg. Assistant Secretary to the Chief Commissioner of the Central Provinces.

To—The Secretary to the Government of India, Foreign Department.

I AM directed to forward, as requested in your letter No. 1337, dated 18th instant, a copy of the papers relative to the band of Cashmerees who appeared in the Baitool District, and also of correspondence which took place regarding another band of foreigners who appeared in Nimar.

2. From the accompanying list it will be seen by whom and under what circumstances, as far as was ascertainable, these foreigners had been furnished with passes, and also the time when such passes were given. When at the close of the year 1868 the Government of India, in the Home Department, brought to notice the fact of a number of foreigners wandering about in various parts of India, and drew attention to the impropriety of rahdari passes being furnished to any one whomsoever, the Officiating Chief Commissioner issued general orders on the subject. The Assistant Commissioner of Hurda, who subsequent to the orders issued a rahdari pass, was severely reprimanded on its becoming known. No mention was made of the matter in the list of police cases sent to Home Department, as no correspondence in the Police Department took place.

List of Rahdari Perwannahs and Licenses granted to Cashmerees detained at Khundwa, &c.

1.	District Supdt. of Police, Jummanpore,	dated	6th July	1866.
2.	Deputy Commissioner, Baitool,	do.	23rd August	1866.
3.	Colonel Murray, of Heeryolee,	do.	16th March	1867.
4.	Sub-Magistrate, Vizagapatam,	do.	4th May	1867.
5.	Joint Magistrate, Alipore,	do.	8th February	1868.
6.	Captain Twyford, of Raepore,	do.	3rd September	1868.
7.	Joint Magistrate, Kamptee,	do.	19th October	1868.
8.	Assistant Commissioner, Hurda,	do.	8th April	1869.
	Nagpore licence,	one man,	dated June	1864.
	Baitool,	seven men,	do. August	1867.
	Belaspore,	one man,	do. August	1868.
	Nagpore,	do.	do. October	1868.
	Magistrate, 24-Pergunnahs,	do.	do. February	1868.

J. NEILL,

Offg. Asst. Secretary to the Chief Commissioner,
Central Provinces.

Cashmerees in Nimar.

Memorandum No. 8, dated the 10th May 1869.

Has the honour to forward copy of report No. 882 this day submitted to the Commissioner, Nerbudda Division.

C. H. GRACE,
Deputy Commissioner, Nimar.

To Secretary, Chief Commr., Central Provinces.

No. 882, dated the 10th May 1869.

From—C. H. Grace, Esq., Deputy Commissioner, Nimar.
To—The Commissioner, Nerbudda Division.

I have the honour to report that about the beginning of the present month a gang of persons calling themselves natives of Cashmere arrived at Khundwa from Hurda. They are all Mussulmans however, and their appearance is more that of Beloochees or some other frontier tribe than of Cashmerees. They possessed a rahdari perwannah from the Assistant Commissioner at Hurda, and while at Khundwa, though I caused some enquiry to be made by the police into their character, nothing appeared to excite suspicion. On leaving Khundwa, however, they took the Asseerghur road, and at Borgaon were reported to have committed a series of outrages, which are now under investigation. The first was a dacoity by seven women of the party, committed on another woman, resident at Borgaon, in which property amounting to about Rs. 300 is said to have been robbed. The other two were assaults by several of the men on two travellers at different places on the road, one of which was accompanied by robbery. On receiving these reports I had the whole gang brought back to Khundwa. Some little resistance was offered to their apprehension by the police, and the two leaders have been convicted by Captain Scott of this offence, and sentenced to a small fine. The gang consist of 16 men, 16 women, and 24 children, who have with them 40 ponies. Seven women and four men are in jail while the charges above mentioned are being investigated. Of the other 12 men two are at large with the women and children, who are encamped outside the town under *surveillance*, and the other ten are in *havalut* under remand, the police having reports of other thefts, &c., committed on the line of march adopted by these wanderers, which may possibly bring the whole gang under Section 401 of the Indian Penal Code.

I have taken the statements of the two leaders regarding their previous proceedings and means of livelihood, which may be given as follows: They belonged originally to two gangs, both of which left Cashmere about two years ago, as they say, with fruit, shawls, &c., for sale. They proceeded, *viâ* the Punjab and Gangetic Valley, to Calcutta; thence to Midnapore, whence one gang went to Cuttack, Raepore and Bhundara, and the other, *viâ* Sumbulpore and Belaspore, to the same

place where the two gangs united. Thence they proceeded to Nagpore, Ellichpore, Baitool, and Hurda, to Khundwa. They now state themselves to be on their way towards Hyderabad. They do not profess to have had any Cashmere merchandize to deal in since they left Calcutta, and now state their means of livelihood to be trafficking in sham pearls, tinsel, rings, glass, imitation stones, &c., of which they have a small stock in hand. This is obviously the merest cloaks to their real means of livelihood. Amongst their property and on their persons was found a large number of gold and silver ornaments, some of which have already been recognized as the produce of the Borgaon dacoity. I think it is not at all improbable that most of these have been obtained by theft and robbery in the course of their wanderings, and enquiries are now being made by the police along their back tracts. Four of the men were armed with double-barrelled guns, and five with single barrels and a pistol. They had arms' licenses of different dates and places, altogether six in number. Amongst these were the following,—

Nagpore	license,	1 man,	June 1864,
Baitool	do.	7 men,	August 1867,
Belaspore	do. for	1 man,	do. 1868,
Nagpore	do.	do.	October 1868,

from which it would appear that this is not the first visit of some of them to these Provinces. One license for one man, granted in February 1868 by the Magistrate of 24-Pergunnahs, has obviously been altered so as to make it a pass for four *years* instead of months (the substituted word is spelt "years"). Considering that such a gang of foreigners as this, with no tangible means of livelihood, and already concerned in several violent crimes in this district alone, clearly belong to the category referred to in Book Circular No. LIII. of 25th November 1868, I purpose detaining them here, irrespective of the result of the police enquiries and the magisterial investigation into the charges made against them, until I shall receive instructions on this report made in accordance with paragraph 4 of the Government letter forwarded with the above quoted circular. I think it highly desirable that the whole gang should be permanently deported from India.

I have also sent a copy of this report direct to the Secretary to Chief Commissioner.

No. 1428—172, dated the 19th May 1869.

From—Lieutenant A. Bloomfield, Assistant Secretary to the Chief Commissioner of the Central Provinces.

To—The Commissioner of Nerbudda Division.

I am directed to inform you that a copy of Captain Forsyth's report No. 882, dated 10th instant, regarding a band of persons calling themselves Cashmerees, has been received by the Chief Commissioner.

2. Mr. Morris will defer passing final orders on the subject until he receive a report from you. In the meantime I am directed to forward copy of a letter sent direct to the Deputy Commissioner, Nimar, approving of the action which he has taken.

3. The Chief Commissioner requests that you will point out to the Assistant Commissioner at Hurda that he was in no way justified in giving a rahdari perwannah to any description of travellers whatsoever. Travellers in British India do not require passports or licenses from Magistrates; and when passports to travel in foreign territory are wanted, they can only be granted by Government.

4. The Chief Commissioner desires that you will report as soon as possible on these men, who are now detained at Khundwa, so that no delay may occur in disposing of them.

No. 1429—172, dated the 19th May 1869.

From—Lieutenant A. Bloomfield, Assistant Secretary to the Chief Commissioner of the Central Provinces.

To—The Deputy Commissioner of Nimar.

I am directed to inform you that the Chief Commissioner has received the copy of the report submitted by you to the Commissioner of Nerbudda Division regarding certain professed Cashmerees detained by you at Khundwa. The Chief Commissioner approves of all that you have done in the matter, but will refrain from passing final orders regarding the disposal of these men until he has received the Commissioner's opinion regarding them.

2. I am to forward, for your perusal and return, a letter, with enclosures, received in July 1868, from the Government of Bengal, regarding certain persons who seem to correspond very closely with the people you describe. It is, indeed, very probable that the band described by the Bengal Government is the same which is now at Khundwa.

3. The Chief Commissioner would wish you to make enquiries into the licenses to bear arms, which have been granted to certain of the men at Nagpore and Baitool. This might elicit some information regarding the men.

4. You will of course go on with the prosecution of the party, or any of the members of it, for any offences committed; and on receiving further information the Chief Commissioner will issue, if necessary, a written order directing these people to leave the Central Provinces.

The return of the letter from Bengal Government is requested.

No. 3179, dated the 27th June 1868.

From—The Offg. Secretary to the Government of Bengal.

To—The Secretary to the Chief Commissioner of the Central Provinces.

Letter from Inspector General of Police, Lower Provinces, No. 4529, dated 8th June 1868, with enclosures.

Letter from Officiating Commissioner of Burdwan No. 90, dated 13th June 1868.

Letter to Officiating Magistrate, Balasore, No. 3177, dated this day, with enclosures.

I am directed by the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal to forward for your information a copy of the papers marginally noted relating to a band of persons, in number about 40, believed to belong to Cabul, Herat, or Khorásan, who have been for some time past wandering about British territories without any ostensible object.

2. His Honor has found it necessary to order, under Section 3, Act III. of 1864, the removal of these persons from British territory, allowing them to follow the route which they wish to take *viâ* Sumbulpore to Joudpore; and I am to request that you will be so good as to issue the necessary orders, with the permission of the Chief Commissioner, to the officers of the Central Provinces for the disposal of the party on their arrival at Sumbulpore.

No. 4529, dated the 8th June 1868.

From—The Inspector General of Police, Lower Provinces.

To—The Secretary to the Government of Bengal.

No. 450, dated 30th May 1868.

I have the honour to forward a letter, as per margin, from the District Superintendent of Balasore, as it appears to me advisable, under the present circumstances, that this large party of Cabulees should not be allowed to go on into Mohurbhunje. As the Magistrate will not interfere, the Government may perhaps consider it necessary to issue some orders on the subject.

No. 450, dated the 30th May 1868.

From—The Officiating District Superintendent of Police, Balasore.

To—The Deputy Inspector General of Police, 1st Circle.

With reference to your No. 1014, I have the honour to inform you that the Cabulees or Heratees therein referred to were yesterday sent back from Rajghât, the North of this district, under escort, to Midnapore. A copy of my letter to the District Superintendent of Police, Midnapore, is attached.

2. Some ten days ago a party of about 40 Cabulees (men, women and children) came into this town, *viâ* Mohurbhunje, bringing a child to the hospital. The child's arm had to be taken off, and they are now waiting for it to proceed on their journey, though they do not say where to. I have placed four constables as a watch over them, who will report watch by watch their movements. Should they wish to go into Mohurbhunje or Keonjhur, am I to allow them to do so? Of course, should they go up or down the Grand Trunk Road, it shall be under escort, as directed in your letter.

No. 446, dated the 29th May 1868.

From—The Officiating District Superintendent of Police, Balasore.

To—The District Superintendent of Police, Midnapore.

WITH reference to your letter No. 158, I have the honour to inform you that Head Constable Sheik Keelao arrived here this morning, and stated that the Khorasanees, who were sent under escort of one Head Constable and four constables down the road, refuse to come into Balasore, and state their intention to go on into Mohurbhunje. After consulting with the Magistrate I find I have no legal right to detain these people, and therefore, as they were forwarded under escort from Midnapore, I deem it advisable to direct the guard to take them back to that place, as, owing to the present disturbances in Keonjhur, I think it desirable that they should not be allowed to go into that territory. I herewith return the roll of papers forwarded by you with your memorandum No. 158, dated 22nd May 1838.

No. 90, dated the 13th June 1868.

From—The Officiating Commissioner of the Burdwan Division.

To—The Under Secretary to the Government of Bengal.

WITH reference to your letter to the Magistrate of Balasore regarding a party of Heratees who have been stopped in that district, forwarded to me with your endorsement of the 10th instant, No. 2870, I have the honour to communicate that they, with their leader Roshun Khan, were stopped at Midnapore on their way down for violent bullying conduct and display of guns to the alarm of the villagers. The Magistrate found they had obtained licenses from the authorities of the 24-Pergunnahs and of Howrah to carry guns under pretence of going back through Central India to Joudpore *viâ* Singbhoom, a journey which they estimated would only occupy a few weeks. But it appeared, on enquiry at Hooghly and Howrah, that they had loitered in Jehanabad and elsewhere, terronizing the inhabitants, and had then given out that they were going to Balasore. But hearing that the Magistrate of Balasore was warned, they turned off to Midnapore, where they said

they were going to Singbhoom *viâ* Cuttack. While in Jehanabad they were several times on the verge of being arrested for criminal proceedings.

The Magistrate of Midnapore, after holding proceedings under Act XXXI. and Act VI. of 1866, impounded the guns which they had with them and revoked their licenses. I instructed him ultimately to forward the guns at their cost to the Magistrate of Cuttack, to be delivered to them there if the Magistrate thought fit, and to keep an eye (not by an open escort) on them as far as Balasore. No news had then been received of disturbances in the interior.

3. I desired the Magistrate of Midnapore to institute a searching enquiry into the proceedings of the gang, and to carry that enquiry out as far back as information was to be had, extending, if need be, to their proceedings *en route* from the North-Western Provinces, and directed that in the meanwhile the gang should be detained by legal measures against the leading members of it. They found no difficulty, however (being evidently familiar with the proceeding), in giving security for good conduct.

4. The information collected by Mr. Reynolds shows that their latest course was from the North-Western Provinces through Chumparun, Purneah and Dinagepore to Gowalpara in Assam (a part of the town on which they were themselves silent), whence they returned in the beginning of the present year through Rungpore and Rajmehal to Howrah.

5. It appears that in every place they visited they have been kept under the eye of the police, and on their departure have sometimes been escorted by a guard of constables to the boundary—a mode of surveillance of which I can hardly say I approve. In one of the Eastern districts a member of the gang was convicted of culpable homicide, and imprisoned for seven years, and in another district the gang was suspected of having stolen a horse. In Midnapore they were suspected of dacoities. Besides these, there have been pretty general complaints of their overbearing conduct.

6. They pretend to carry on a trade in horses, glass beads and shawls, but the statements they made to me of the extent of their dealings proved enormously exaggerated. They do a mere nominal trade.

7. It appeared from their own statements that they have wandered about India for years as far South as Hyderabad and Mysore. It does not appear that they have done any great violence anywhere, but they had no satisfactory object (except gipsy life) in going anywhere.

8. I believe they are really bent on getting up to Ajmere through Central India, and that they have no particular desire to join in disturbances at Keonjhur. But they are in no hurry to get home, and are no doubt willing enough to live by their wits and show of numbers as long as they can.

9. Mr. Reynolds is preparing a detailed narrative of their movements for the past two years, which I had intended to submit in due course. I have informed him of the wishes of Government under present orders.

No. 2177, dated the 27th June 1868.

From—H. L. Dampier, Esq., Offg. Secretary to the Government of Bengal.

To—The Officiating Magistrate of Balasore.

I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter No. 319' dated 18th instant, reporting the issue by you of orders prohibiting certain Cabulees, Heratees, or Khorasanees from passing through the estates of Mohurbhunje and Keonjhur, and stating that these persons have agreed to proceed towards Cuttack by the Trunk Road with the view of passing through Sumbulpore to their homes in Western India.

2. The Lieutenant-Governor approves of the instructions issued by you, and I am directed to forward for your guidance a renewed warrant under Act III. of 1864, which will supersede the one forwarded with my letter No. 2867, dated the 10th instant.

3. You are requested to forward the men to the Deputy Commissioner of Sumbulpore, who will no doubt receive further instructions from the Chief Commissioner of the Central Provinces, to whom a communication has been addressed on the subject this day.

Warrant.

Under the provisions of Section 3, Act III. of 1864, the Lieutenant-Governor is pleased to order certain persons, in number about 40, believed to belong to Cabul, Herat, or Khorasan, and designated as Cabulees, Heratees, or Khorasanees, who are now reported to be in the District of Balasore without any ostensible purpose, to remove themselves from British India, going *viâ* Sumbulpore to Joudpore.

H. L. DAMPIER,

The 27th June 1868. *Offg. Secy. to the Govt. of Bengal.*

No. 1842, dated the 20th May 1869.

From—The Commissioner of the Nerbudda Division.

To—The Secretary to the Chief Commissioner of the Central Provinces.

As the Deputy Commissioner of Nimar has forwarded to you direct a copy of his letter No. 882,* dated the 10th May, to my address, I shall await receipt of the Chief Commissioner's instructions before communicating with the Deputy Commissioner.

* Report on a band of travelling foreigners.

2. Of the total number* of persons of whom the band consists, 14 men and 7 women appear to be already implicated in actual offences committed. If, as seems probable, these persons should be convicted, there would remain but 2 men and 9 women and the children to be sent out of the country, or otherwise disposed of as the Chief Commissioner should direct. It might hardly, perhaps, be worth while to go to the expense of deporting these. But anyhow, before determining what is to be done with the non-convicted residue, it will probably be well to wait and see what this residue is. I propose, therefore, that the Deputy Commissioner be instructed to keep that portion of the band which is not in havalut under surveillance as at present, and to report the result of the criminal trials, and arrangements will have to be made hereafter for deporting the convicted members of the band after expiration of their sentences.

* Men	...	16
Women	...	16
Children	...	24
Total	...	56

No. 1009, dated the 21st May 1869.

From—Captain C. H. GRACE, Deputy Commr. of Nimar.

To—The Secretary to the Chief Commissioner of the Central Provinces.

I HAVE the honour to state, in reply to your No. 1429—172, dated 19th May 1869, that, after further enquiry regarding the gang of Cashmerees, I feel satisfied that they are the identical gang who were ordered to leave British India by the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal.

It is in the first place unlikely that there would be two gangs so closely corresponding in description and general character, and in the route they have adopted through India. Their leader when at Midnapore was called "Roshun Khan", and now calls himself "Bahadoor Khan". At Baitool, in 1867, he called himself "Gholam Hossein". Again, when at Nagpore in 1868, they must have described themselves as "Cabulees" and not as "Cashmerees," as, in the arms license obtained there, the bearer is so designated. Further, at Balasore, where they also obtained a license, the gang is stated to be making for *Ajmere* just as they said at Midnapore. When stopped here they were going directly *from* Ajmere, however, and towards Hyderabad. They explain this now by saying that they turned from their road owing to the reports of famine they had heard. I may state that there is no child among them with an arm amputated, which would have been conclusive proof of their being the Midnapore gang. This is all the information I have obtained, and the letters from Bengal Government do not give any names nor other details by which they can be further recognized; but I think there can be no reasonable doubt of the identity of the gang. I have communicated, as desired, with the Deputy Commissioners of Baitool and Nagpore regarding the arms licenses granted by them, but

submit the present report without waiting for replies, as they have already been a long time here, and are very impatient to be disposed of somehow. The police have failed to trace any more offences by them, and they have not been convicted of any of the robberies and assaults charged against them. The proof has always failed at the point of personal identification, there being so many of them, and all so alike, that which of them did the particular deed cannot be proven. I have no doubt, however, that they systematically live by the proceeds of extortion and small robberies committed on the secluded roads they seem always to choose for travelling on. They probably avoid greater crimes as more likely to bring them into trouble.

Should the Chief Commissioner decide to order them out of the Central Provinces, I would request instructions as to the disposal of their fire-arms. Two of their guns only are covered by licenses, one of which is for a period ending 3rd September 1869 by Deputy Commissioner of Raepore (omitted in my former letter), and another a license without term, dated 23rd June 1864, from Deputy Commissioner, Nagpore. I would also suggest that the Agent to the Governor General at Indore be communicated with, and asked to instruct Holkar's authorities at Burwye to look after the gang after it leaves Nimar.

Probably they will try to double back again into some other British territory. I have forwarded copy of this letter to Commissioner, Nerbudda Division.

No. 1522—178, dated the 28th May 1869.

From—J. W. Neill, Esq., Assistant Secretary to the Chief Commissioner of the Central Provinces.

To—The Deputy Commissioner of Nimar.

I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter No. 1009, dated 21st instant, regarding the gang of Cashmerees detained by you at Khundwa. As it has been impossible to convict any of these persons of the offences charged against them, the Chief Commissioner thinks the only thing to be done is to order them to leave the Central Provinces.

2. I am accordingly to forward a warrant directing them to remove themselves from these Provinces. You will let a small number of police accompany the gang until it crosses the frontier, and you will also communicate with the authorities of the district, or state into which these men are entering.

3. Regarding the fire-arms of which these men are possessed, the Chief Commissioner requests that you will revoke the licenses under which they are allowed to have arms, and take the fire-arms themselves into your custody, retaining them until the gang crosses the frontier, after which the fire-arms may be returned to them.

4. The licenses will of course not be returned.

WARRART.

UNDER the provisions of Section 3 of Act III. of 1864, the Chief Commissioner is pleased to order certain persons, numbering between 50 and 60, professing to be inhabitants of Cashmere, who are at present at Khundwa, in the District of Nimar, without any ostensible purpose or object, to remove themselves from British India.

No. 0, dated the 28th May 1869.

Endorsed by the Officiating Assistant Secretary to the Chief Commissioner of the Central Provinces.

COPY forwarded to Commissioner, Nerbudda Division, in reply to his No. 1842, dated the 20th instant.

No. 1527—179, dated the 28th May 1869.

From—J. W. NEILL, Esq., Assistant Secretary to the Chief Commisssoner of the Central Provinces.

To—The Commissioner of the Nerbudda Division.

IN reference to your letter No. 1842, dated 20th instant, regarding the gang of Cashmerees detained at Khundwa, I am desired by the Chief Commissioner to inform you that as, from further report received from Deputy Commissioner of Nimar, it appeared that no conviction could be had against any of the gang, the Chief Commissioner has, to avoid further delay, issued a warrant directing these persons to remove themselves from British India.

2. This has been sent direct to the Deputy Commissioner, but a copy has been forwarded for your information.

Memorandum No. 1061, dated the 26th May 1869.

IN continuation of this Office No. 1009 of 21st instant, forwards copy of a letter received from the District Superintendent of Police, Baitool District, regarding the gang of Cashmerees.

C. H. GRACE, *Captain,*
Deputy Commissioner, Nimar.

To the Secretary to the Chief Commissioner of the Central Provinces.

No. 402, dated the 19th May 1869.

From—The District Superintendent of Police, Baitool.

To—The District Superintendent of Police, Nimar.

IN reply to your docket No. 920, dated the 13th instant, I have the honour to inform you that a report reached my court at Dhola on the

Berar frontier on the 8th instant to the effect that a large gang of Rohillas had crossed over from Berar, and were causing a great deal of trouble and annoyance to the villagers of Koomaree. One or two of these so-called "Rohillas", it was said, had forcibly entered houses in search of food. I at once started off with the intention of arresting the whole gang, but on coming up with them I found that they were Cashmerees and armed with purwannahs, passes and licenses, &c., some old, some of recent date, one especially from Hurda, dated (I think) 25th or 29th April. Under these circumstances I was unable to do anything with these people; but a report was submitted to the Deputy Commissioner, and I now await his instructions. I have, however, deputed three constables to march with these men and remain with them day and night. At large villages these people do not give much trouble, as they can always get plenty to eat and drink. They appear to be addicted though to the habit of drawing very hard bargains with the timid villagers, and beyond this I have no complaints against them. The cases of criminal trespass could not be brought home to any of them, although they doubtless did occur. I should be obliged if you could kindly furnish me with further particulars regarding the gang, as I am inclined to think that they are very bad characters, and should either be chullaned or sent back to their own country.

No. 1316, dated the 21st June 1869.

From—Captain C. H. Grace, Deputy Commissioner of Nimar.

To—The Assistant Secretary to the Chief Commissioner of the Central Provinces.

With reference to your No. 1522—178 of 28th May 1869, I have the honour to inform you that the gang of so-called Cashmerees have removed themselves from the Central Provinces. They passed into Holkar's territory at Kherryghât of the Nerbudda River.

Due intimation was given to the Agent to the Governor General, Indore.

No. 1843, dated the 25th May 1869.

From—The Commissioner of the Nerbudda Division.

To—The Secretary to the Chief Commissioner of the Central Provinces.

Cashmerees in Baitool.

I beg to aknowledge the receipt of your letter No. 1428—172, dated the 19th instant, respecting the band of foreigners now under surveillance at Khundwa. This letter crossed my letter No. 1842, dated 20th idem. Further report will be furnished by this Office in due course so soon as the Deputy Commissioner of Nimar informs me of the result of the criminal trials now being held on certain persons belonging to the gang.

2. Meantime I submit copies of this Office letters Nos. 1844 and 1845, dated to-day, to the Deputy Commissioners, Nimar and Baitool.

3. I have called the attention of the Deputy Commissioner, Hoshungabad, to the fact that the granting a "rahdari purwannah" by the Assistant Commissioner of Hurda was against standing orders, and have also written on this subject to all Deputy Commissioners in this Division.

No. 1844, dated the 25th May 1869.

From—The Commissioner of the Nerbudda Division.

To—The Deputy Commissioner of Nimar.

With reference to your letter No. 882, dated the 10th instant, reporting on the case of a band of foreigners calling themselves Cashmerees, and to letter No. 1428—172, dated the 19th idem, from the Secretary to Chief Commissioner, to yourself, I beg to forward to you copies of further correspondence* on the same subject, and to state that, before reporting finally to the Chief Commissioner, I await information from you as to the result of the criminal trials now being held on certain members of the band.

* (1.) Letter No. 1842, dated 20th May 1869, from Officiating Commissioner, Nerbudda Division, to Secretary to Chief Commissioner, Central Provinces.
(2.) Letter No. 1428—172, dated 19th May 1869, from Secretary to Chief Commissioner, to Commissioner, Nerbudda Division.
(3.) Letter No. 1843, dated 25th May 1869, from Commissioner, in reply.

2. Further information respecting the amount of money and the value of articles ostensibly kept for sale, now in the possession of these people, should be furnished, as this will tend in some measure to show whether they set out with a real intention to trade, or whether they are wholly and solely a set of buccaneers travelling through the country, plundering wherever opportunity offers.

3. I take the opportunity also to add that I have this day learnt (the official report has not yet reached me) that a similar band has been arrested in the Baitool District. These men, too, have in their possession stones of trifling value, which they say constitute their stock in trade; they have also with them a number of old "rahadari purwannahs", arms, and women and children; and they at first said that they were proceeding to Hyderabad. Probably they will be found to belong to the same gang as that arrested at Khundwa. I have asked the Deputy Commissioner of Baitool to communicate with you on the subject, and to send to you a nominal roll showing the names, father's name, and places of residence of the different individuals, and I shall be obliged if you will forward to him a similar roll of the persons at Khundwa.

No. 1845.

Copy forwarded to the Deputy Commissioner, Baitool, for information, with reference to the late conversation with the Deputy

Commissioner respecting the band of foreigners now under surveillance at Baitool. The Deputy Commissioner should report on these people as soon as possible. Copy of letter No. 882, dated 10th instant, from the Deputy Commissioner, Nimar, is also forwarded for reference.

No. 1643—186, dated the 9th June 1869.

From—Lieutenant A. Bloomfield, Asst. Secretary to the Chief Commissioner of the Central Provinces.

To—The Commissioner of the Nerbudda Division.

With reference to your letter No. 1843, dated 25th ultimo, and its enclosure, regarding the band of foreigners now under surveillance at Khundwa, I am directed to state that the further report promised by you is awaited.

No. 3394, dated the 8th June 1869.

From—Major H. Mackenzie, Commissioner of the Nerbudda Division.

To—The Secretary to the Chief Commissioner of the Central Provinces.

In continuation of this Office No. 1843, dated the 25th ultimo, I have now the honour to forward a letter (in original), with enclosures, from the Deputy Commissioner of Baitool, reporting on the band of Cashmerees now at Baitool.

2. My own impression is that it would be advisable to deal with this band exactly as has been done in the case of the other Cashmerees lately at Khundwa who have been ordered to leave the country under the Chief Commissioner's Warrant dated 28th ultimo.

3. I have directed the Deputy Commissioner to keep them here under surveillance until reply to this communication arrives.

No. 1214, dated the 5th June 1869.

From—The Deputy Commissioner of Baitool.

To—The Commissioner of the Nerbudda Division.

With reference to your docket No. 1845, dated 25th May last, I have the honour to submit a nominal roll of two gangs of Cashmerees who have recently come to this district not as permanent residents, but, according to their own statements, as merchants travelling in pursuit of their regular calling from Cashmere towards Hyderabad.

The roll likewise shows the strength of the parties and the amount of property with each individual; it will be noticed that the quantity of property, consisting of cash, gold coins and silver ornaments, is considerable, and there is one peculiarity about the silver ornaments, which is, that scarcely any two articles are of the same pattern, which would seem to confirm in a measure the statement made by these individuals that they were made up or purchased as they disposed of their merchandize, consisting of *precious* stones, with which they started to trade from their own country.

Note.—I have seen these stones. I would say that they are not precious stones, but cut pebbles, cut glass and the like. There are, however, a few turquoises, but valueless ones.—M. L.

2. There is nothing beyond the above assumption to prove that the statements made by these Cashmerees is not inconsistent with truth; but at the same time there is nothing whatever against them: they are, it is true, suspected by the police, and have been accused of oppression and having given a great deal of trouble, but in reality in this district, although charged with all sorts of criminal acts, they have not been convicted, and the most that has yet been brought against them is that three individuals of the gang were caught stealing mangoes, and they have been chullaned by the police on this charge; but it is impossible to state at present whether the crime will be brought home to them.

3. There is another theory connected with the difference in the description of the silver ornaments in possession of these parties which is equally possible, and quite as likely as the statement advanced by the Cashmerees, and that is, that this property is the result of theft from different individuals, in which case of course the patterns of silver ornaments thus obtained would be unlikely to be the same; but, on the other hand, I am inclined to think that, if robbery and theft was their occupation, we should long since have learned of their depredations; nor is it likely that people under such circumstances would come through the same districts three years running which these men have done.

4. Rahdari perwannahs and licenses have been granted to these individuals by the under-mentioned officials:

District Superintendent of Police, Jummanpore,	dated	6th July 1866.
Deputy Commissioner, Baitool,	,,	23rd August 1866.
Joint Magistrate of Kamptee,	,,	19th October 1868.
Assistant Commissioner, Hurda,	,,	8th April 1869.
Sub-Magistrate of Vizagapatam,	,,	4th May 1867.

5. The two reports of the District Superintendent of Police are submitted, which will place superior authority in a position to understand all that is said against these Cashmerees, and at the same time how little can be proved against them; and I think they should be allowed to leave the district without further interference, as the character of Cashmerees is not of that ferocious stamp which would warrant apprehension as to their preying on the public; they partake more of the

character of sheep than animals of prey; but, on the other hand, if they misconduct themselves, surely the executive is strong enough to hold their own. The gang, though numerically strong, has few men with it, the majority of the number being women and children. I think the rahdari perwannahs should be taken from them, and I would ask your orders respecting these people as early as may be convenient, as, supposing them to be honest traders, as I do, their detention must be a matter of hardship to them.

List of Cashmereans arrived this morning at Budnoor, 1st June 1867.

Names of each party.	Number in each family.	Property.	Amount. Rs. As. P.	Remarks.
1. Allee Khan—	6	Ready cash	10 0 0	
1 wife.		1 mala, silver, of four annas coin	5 0 0	
4 children (under 10 years old).		1 silver goongroo	10 0 0	
Cashmere town.		1 mala, bead	15 0 0	
		Stones	90 0 0	
		4 goats.		
2. Madulla—	4	Cash in hand	36 0 0	
1 wife.		1 silver mala, all ...	20 0 0	
2 boys (aged 13 and 15).		1 mala, common beads ...	5 0 0	
Cashmere alone.		Stones	20 0 0	
		3 goats.		
3. Assen Allee—	4	6 gold culmas	150 0 0	
1 old woman.		2 goldmohurs, Jeypooree ...	34 0 0	
1 sister, aged 30.		13 do. Rs. 6 each ...	78 0 0	
1 brother, Goolam Allee.		1 pair of kadas	45 0 0	
Cashmere alone.		Stones	100 0 0	
		5 goats.		
		Cash	60 0 0	
4. Hossein Khan—	3	1 silver mala	50 0 0	
1 old woman.		1 mala of beads	10 0 0	
1 brother, Yaseen Khan.		4 goldmohurs	24 0 0	
		2 do. Jeypooree ...	34 0 0	
		2 do. culma	50 0 0	
		Stones	50 0 0	
		1 mala of pearls	50 0 0	
		4 goats.		
5. 1 Syed Mahomed	1	Not belonging to the gang, but they say that he is from Persia. Joined this gang on the road about a month and a half ago. Nothing is found in his possession.		

Names of each party.	Number in each family.	Property.	Amount. Rs. As. P.	Remarks.
6. Rumzan— 1 wife. 1 child. Cashmere.	3	Stones, precious ... ... 1 pearl mala, quite pure ... Cash in hand ... ... 1 silver hamaile ... ... 1 pair, kadas ... ... 1 bhuqunekan ... ... 1 silver chain ... ... 18 goldmohurs ... ... 5 goats.	150 0 0 200 0 0 100 0 0 80 0 0 25 0 0 5 0 0 10 0 0 350 0 0	
7. Goolam Allee— Wife. 2 boys, aged 14 and 16. 2 girls, aged 4 and 8. 1 old woman.	7	1 pair kadas ... ... 1 hamaile ... ... 1 baindee ... ... 1 mala, silver, all ... ... Cash in hand ... ... Beads, common ... ... Stones ... ... 10 goats.	20 0 0 40 0 0 10 0 0 15 0 0 50 0 0 10 0 0 100 0 0	
8. Ally Mohamed— Wife. 3 children, under 10 years.	5	5 silver rings ... ... 1 do. hamaile ... ... 1 bead mala ... ... 1 chain, plain, silver... ... Cash in hand ... ... 21 goldmohurs, at Rs. 17 each ... 1 goat.	25 0 0 50 0 0 10 0 0 15 0 0 25 0 0 357 0 0	
9. Shurupa— 1 brother, Assain. 5 children, under 14 years old.	7	1 silver goongroo ... ... Do. hamaile ... ... 1 pair, kadas ... ... 1 baindee ... ... Cash in hand ... ... Stones ... ... 2 goats.	40 0 0 50 0 0 10 0 0 90 0 0 20 0 0 25 0 0	

Total number of men, women and children, 40; all possess two and three ponies each.

Arms none, no documents to produce, but there is one rahdari signed by Mr. Plowden, the Assistant Commissioner, while at Bouranpore, about two years ago. They say they are the residents of the town of Cashmere alone, but very much to be suspected; and further states that they are now coming direct from Cashmere. It is a year since they have left their country. The cause of their leaving the country is owing to *famine*. When they arrived at Jubbulpore about two months ago, that half of this gang has left them for Nagpore *viâ* Nursingpore, &c. These are their statements.

List of Cashmereans and a list of property which are now in hand.

Number.	Names of each party.	Number in each family.	Property.	Amount. Rs.	As.	P.	Remarks.
1	Ajee Hossein—	6	1 choodee or kada of silver, 6 pairs ...	60	0	0	Differ in size.
	His wife.		1 hamaile (to wear around the neck), silver ...	36	0	0	All made of old coins.
	3 boys (1 aged 16 and 2 below 12 years).		1 bajoobund of gold	100	0	0	Or more.
	1 girl, 7 years old.		Cash in hand	156	0	0	
			1 baindee of silver (to wear on forehead) ...	12	0	0	
			1 silver chain	5	0	0	
			1 do. a pair of joomka (ear ornament) ...	15	0	0	
			50 Jeypooree ashurphies, gold ...	850	0	0	Each valued Rs. 17.
			6 English sovereigns	60	0	0	
			1 double-barrel gun, quite new	......			This man has also a license for the gun signed by the Joint Magistrate of Alipore, dated 8th February 1868.
			1 flask of powder and three empty flasks, few bullets and caps.				
			Several kinds of stones, some of them are very precious.	200	0	0	
2	1. Durbish Pashmee —	5	1 mala of bead (very valuale moongas) ...	100	0	0	
	2. Pear Ally		1 do. do. do.	9	0	0	
	3. Wife and 2 girls, aged 10 and 8.		1 mala of rupees (various kinds of old and new coins).	25	0	0	
	Hossein Ally, numbers 1 and 2 are the sons of this man.		1 shabeez	5	0	0	
	Cashmere alone.		50 ashurphies, gold, value Rs. 6 each ...	300	0	0	
			6 Jeypooree gold do. do. 17 do. ...	102	0	0	
			1 English sovereign	10	0	0	
			1 mala, thusbee	100	0	0	Or more.
			Ready cash	105	0	0	
			Several kinds of precious stones ...	200	0	0	

3	1. Ruthun Khan— 2. Goolam Ally (father). 2 wives. 1 girl, 14 years old. 3 sons, about 14, 18, 21. Cashmere alone.	8	Ready cash	34 0 0	
			1 silver mala made of old coin	65 0 0	
			1 ditto ditto	18 0 0	
			1 ditto ditto	25 0 0	
			1 silver goongroo	20 0 0	
			1 ditto thada	90 0 0	
			64 Jeypooree goldmohurs	988 0 0	Rs. 17 each.
			1 gold mala of mohurs, valued Rs. 25 each, 12 in number	300 0 0	
			1 pair of silver kada	22 0 0	
			1 kurdaree (cummar deree)	24 0 0	
			1 single golden kada	100 0 0	
			1 goldmohur mala (47 mohurs) made with moongas	282 0 0	
			8 choories (various kinds of silver-make) ...	20 0 0	
			1 nadalee of silver	10 0 0	
			6 golden rings of various sorts	80 0 0	
			1 small silver box	10 0 0	
			1 mala, small, of good pearls	80 0 0	
			1 mala of moonga, very valuable ...	100 0 0	
			1 hamaile (there are also Rs. 60 in it) ...	100 0 0	
			1 silver Hamaile, plain chain	30 0 0	
			1 mala of red beads (moonga)	50 0 0	
			4 goldmohurs, value Rs. 25 each ...	100 0 0	
			Several kinds of stones	200 0 0	Or more.
			1 small pure pearl mala	200 0 0	
4	1. Maradh Khan, his brothers—Koolamather and Shamanath, 2 wives and 4 children. Son of Aboo Ally, but not with the gang; at Cashmere.	9	50 goldmohurs, value Rs. 6 each ...	350 0 0	
			Ready cash	20 0 0	
			2 pairs of silver kadas	28 0 0	
			1 ditto ditto	20 0 0	
			Several kinds of stones	100 0 0	
			1 double-barrel gun, quite new, a little powder, &c.	......	Possesses a license from the Joint Magistrate at Kamptee dated 20th October 1868.
			Several kinds of precious stones ...	200 0 0	

Number.	Names of each party.	Number in each family.	Property.	Amount.			REMARKS.
				Rs.	As.	P.	
5	1. Mahomed Khan, wife and 2 children.	4	5 Jeypooree goldmohurs, value Rs. 17 each ...	85	0	0	
			Cash in hand	15	0	0	
	Salthoo Marad is the father, but not present with the gang.						
6	1. Malakan and wife. Shamarath is the name of the father, but not present.	2	1 silver mala made of rupees, old and new, a silver plate in it	100	0	0	
			10 moonga malas	80	0	0	
			21 ashurphies, gold, value Rs. 6 each ...	126	0	0	
			11 Jeypooree ditto Rs. 17 do. ...	187	0	0	
			3 kalmars of gold, value Rs. 25 do. ...	75	0	0	
			1 silver hamaile	60	0	0	
			5 kadas	40	0	0	
			1 topee adorned with silver ornaments ...	20	0	0	
			2 kurdarees, silver	40	0	0	
			Stones of various kinds	100	0	0	
			Cash in hand	17	0	0	
7	Alabuksh— 2 sisters. 2 brothers and a wife.	6	1 silver mala	25	0	0	
			1 mala of gold	200	0	0	
			Several kinds of stones	100	0	0	
	Ally Khan is the father, but not present with the gang.		1 pair kadas	10	0	0	
			Cash in hand	25	0	0	
8	Beda Ajee Hoosein and his wife.	2	28 goldmohurs, value Rs. 6 each	168	0	0	
			Cash in hand	15	0	0	
	Valee Beg is the father, but not present.		1 mala of moonga	25	0	0	
			Several kinds of stones	300	0	0	
9	1. Hyderally, wife and 2 children.	4	1 silver kindoree	21	0	0	
			1 kada of silver	14	0	0	
	Ajee Hoossain, but not present with the gang.		1 hamaile	8	0	0	
			2 hamailes of silver	60	0	0	

			Cash in hand	10	0	0	
			1 mala of silver mixed with moongas ...	15	0	0	
			1 silver plate for the above mala ...	6	0	0	
			1 bindee for women	8	8	0	
			2 silver rings	5	0	0	
			Several kinds of precious stones ...	200	0	0	
10	1 Ally Mahomed Khan, wife and 3 children.	5	Cash in hand	10	0	0	
			Several kinds of precious stones ...	100	0	0	
11	1 Goolam Russool, wife and 2 children.	4	Cash in hand	11	0	0	
	Suffer Khan is the father, but not present with the gang.		20 goldmohurs, value Rs. 6 each	120	0	0	
			Several kinds of stones	300	0	0	Precious.
			1 pair of silver kada	15	0	0	
			1 do. do.	9	0	0	
			1 silver mala, plain chain	20	0	0	
			1 mala of moongas	15	0	0	
			1 double-barrel gun	80	0	0	This man also possesses a license signed by Colonel Murray, of Heenyolee, dated 16th March 1867.
12	1 Mohamed Ally, father Suffer Khan and wife.	3	Cash	25	0	0	
			Stones of various kinds	50	0	0	
13	1 Mirza, wife and 4 children. Khoondadad is the father, but not present.	6	1 kadas, Rs. 30, 2 huslees Rs. 20, 2 pairs of chowdees Rs. 15, cash Rs. 23.	80	0	0	Perhaps more.
			1 thada, silver, and one bajoobund ...	30	0	0	
			1 mala of beads and one do. of four annas coin	59	0	0	
			1 salaimanee	50	0	0	
			1 silver goongroo	50	0	0	
			1 pair penchee	50	0	0	
			1 kurdaree, all with four annas coin ...	10	0	0	
			42 goldmohurs, valued at Rs. 6 each ...	252	0	0	
			1 English mohur	10	0	0	
			1 Jeypooree do.	17	0	0	
			1 silver box, plated	15	0	0	
			1 bhaghoonuck, gold	20	0	0	
			2 plain rings, gold	10	0	0	
			1 balee of golden chain	30	0	0	
			Precious stones, worth	200	0	0	

Number.	Names of each party.	Number in each family.	Property.	Amount.			REMARKS.
				Rs.	As.	P.	
14	Ghoolam Hossain, the head man, his young wife. Suffer Khan is the name of the father, but not present.	2	1 gold belt	50	0	0	
			1 pair of gold balees with green stones ...	25	0	0	
			2 gold, plain, balees	30	0	0	
			1 nose ring	5	0	0	
			1 pair of ear ornament, gold	20	0	0	
			Cash in hand	19	0	0	
			50 goldmohurs, Rs. 6 each	300	0	0	
			1 bajoobund of silver	25	0	0	
			1 silver chain, plain	20	0	0	
			1 silver goongroo	20	0	0	
			Precious stones, worth	100	0	0	
			10 silk sarees, valued Rs. 10 each ...	100	0	0	
			1 single-barrel gun	50	0	0	Holds a license signed by Captain Twyford, of Raepore, dated 3rd September 1868.
			A small quantity of powder, &c. ...				

These people possess the following papers :

1 Rahdari from Jummanpore to Calcutta, dated Nagpore, 6th July 1866, signed by the W. S. there.

Do. signed by Colonel Snow, dated 23rd August 1866.

Do. signed by Assistant Commissioner Mr. McGeorge, dated Hurda, the 8th April 1869.

They have also two perwannahs from the Sub-Magistrate, Vizagapatam, in Telugoo, dated 4th May 1867.

GUBYAH, *Inspector*,

for *District Supdt. of Police*,

Baitool.

Dated the 9th May 1869.

From—A. MARRIOTT, Esq., Offg. District Supdt. of Dhaba.
To—The Deputy Commissioner.

THERE is a wandering gang of Cashmerees going about the district at present, and they are giving a great deal of trouble to the villagers.

I had a complaint brought against them on Saturday (criminal trespass). I at once started off for their camp, about three miles from this, with the view of arresting the whole lot of them; but on my arrival I found that they had perwannahs, licenses and passes with them, and I could of course, therefore, do nothing. I have thought it advisable to send two constables along with them.

These people are anxious to go to Hyderabad, and had got into the Berar territory, when, hearing that cholera was prevalent in Chandoor, they turned back again.

I shall be very glad when they are out of this district. These people have been wandering about the Central Provinces for the last two years, and the head man of the gang appears to know you quite well.

Dated the 15th May 1869.

From—A. MARRIOTT, Esq., Offg. District Supdt. of Goorgaon.
To—The Deputy Commissioner.

THEY have a regular bundle of perwannahs, some from Raepore, some from Nagpore, and one or two of last year's from Baitool itself. Their last is dated from Hurda, 29th *April* I think, and their licenses were given to them at Kamptee by the Cantonment Magistrate. They gave the people a great deal of trouble on their first visit to the villagers; they entered houses forcibly in search of food. Unfortunately there was only one constable present at the outpost, and he could do nothing, but he ought to have reported it. Since I have placed two constables constantly over them, of course they cannot give so much annoyance; but I think it would be a great thing to have them sent out of the districts; they are undoubtedly a set of rascals, and ought not to have perwannahs given them, now that they have abused the privilege.

Dated the 21st May 1869.

From—A. MARRIOTT, Esq., Offg. District Superintendent.
The—The Deputy Commissioner.

HEREWITH the Cashmeree. Since writing to you last, I have heard from the District Superintendent of Nimar, who wrote to say that some of the members of this gang committed a dacoity in his district, and he wishes to know how the rest of the gang are behaving

themselves. They were taken up in Nimar under Section 401 also, but I don't think we can bring them under this.

From—A. Marriott, Esq., Offg. District Superintendent.

To—The Deputy Commissioner.

The man is herewith sent with a constable.

Dated the 31st May 1869.

From—A. Marriott, Esq., Offg. District Superintendent.

To—The Deputy Commissioner.

I have been down to the camp of these Cashmerees, and I send you a list of the valuables they have with them.

It is just possible they may have more. I did not like to cut open saddle-cloths, *rezaies*, bedding, &c., in which jewels might of course be stowed away, but this can be done if you wish it. The men showed their things willingly; but Roostum Khan, who is a kind of "Gooroo", and possessed of a great deal of property, may possibly have kept back something.

The stones in their possession are of but little value; and it is probable, I think, that the gold rings, silver bracelets, and other similar ornaments are stolen poperty.

The head man tells me that he came down here two or three years ago, and went down as far as Madras. He then went back to Cashmere, and left Sreenuggur about a year ago on his present trip. He came down *viâ* Sealkote, Delhi, Jeypore, Jodhpore, Goonah, Oojein, Indore and Hurda, and was on his way to Hyderabad, but intends now going on to Nagpore. He says he has *not* been to Khundwa. The gang at Baitool numbered, you will observe, 66 on the morning of the 28th instant, and I believe them to be a very bad lot. In addition to the property entered in the list, I may add that they possess also 42 tatoos and six dogs. They assert that they are *all* residents of Sreenuggur. I enclose an extract from the Baitool roznamcha of yesterday (30th). From this you will perceive that *another* gang is on its way to Baitool. I will send out policemen to escort them.

The gang at present at Baitool was here last year also, and behaved in precisely the same way as they are going on now.

No. 1714—199, dated the 15th June 1869.

From—The Assistant Secretary to the Chief Commissioner of the Central Provinces.

To—The Commissioner of the Nerbudda Division.

I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter No. 3394, dated 8th instant, and its enclosures, regarding the party of Cashmerees

who are at present in the District of Baitool. The band does not seem in any way so formidable as that which was recently deported from Nimar. There are in this party more women and children, and the men are unmarried, nor are they accused of any actions of such violence as were alleged against the Nimar party, which, moreover, as was said by Captain Forsyth, consisted apparently more of hill men from the Indian frontier than of Cashmerees proper.

2. The Chief Commissioner, therefore, thinks it necessary to issue in this case a final order of deportation, and he would only wish you to issue orders that these men be deprived of the rahdari passes which they possess, and which ought not to have been given to them, and that they should be watched by the police until they leave the confines of your division.

Bands of Cashmerees at Baitool and Nimar in the Central Provinces.

THE Officiating Chief Commissioner, in compliance with a call* made from this Office on the 10th July last, submits a copy of the papers regarding the band of Cashmerees now at Baitool, as also of those relating to another band of foreigners who appeared in Nimar.

* General, B., July 1869, No. 88.

It will be seen that the rahdari passes found in the possession of these individuals were granted by the following officials, viz:

(1) District Supdt. of Police, Jummanpore, dated 6th July 1866,
(2) Deputy Commissioner, Baitool, dated 23rd August 1866,
(3) Colonel Murray, of Heeryolee, dated 16th March 1867,
(4) Sub-Magistrate, Vizagapatam, dated 4th May 1867,
(5) Joint Magistrate, Alipore, dated 8th February 1868,
(6) Captain Twyford, of Raepore, dated 3rd September 1868,
(7) Joint Magistrate, Kamptee, dated 19th October 1868,
(8) Assistant Commissioner, Hurda, dated 8th April 1869,

and that the licenses to carry arms were granted by the authorities at Nagpore for one man in June 1864; Baitool, for seven men in August 1867; Belaspore, for one man in August 1868; Nagpore, for one man in October 1868; and by the Magistrate of the 24-Pergunnahs, for one man, in February 1868.

But our enquiry with regard to the circumstances under which these passes were granted appears to have been overlooked by the Officiating Chief Commissioner, as nothing is stated on that point.

Mr. Morris says that the Assistant Commissioner of Hurda has been severely reprimanded for granting a rahdari pass against standing orders.

The party of Cashmerees at Nimar is believed to be the identical band of wanderers whom the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal found it necessary to remove from the District of Balasore in June 1868. It consisted of 16 men, 16 women and 24 children,—in all 56 persons.

These were reported by the Deputy Commissioner of Nimar to have committed a series of outrages in the course of their wanderings, and were found to be in possession of gold and silver ornaments, which were probably obtained by theft and robbery. It was, however, found impossible to convict any of them of the robberies and assaults charged against them, as the proof had always failed at the point of personal identification, there being so many of them, and all so alike, that which of them did the particular deed could not be proved. Under these circumstances the Officiating Chief Commissioner issued a warrant directing their removal from the Central Provinces, and on the 21st June last the Deputy Commissioner of Nimar reported that the gang had passed into Holkar's territory at Kherryghât of the Nerbudda River, and that due intimation of it was given to the Governor General's Agent in Central India, in order that Holkar's authorities at Burwye may be instructed to look after the gang. The men were, however, previously deprived of their licenses.

As regards the other band of Cashmerees at Baitool, it appears that they are in no way so formidable as those deported from Nimar, nor do they appear to be accused of any actions of such violence as were alleged against the Nimar party. But the Chief Commissioner has issued orders for their removal also, directing that the men be deprived of their rahdari passes, and be carefully watched by the police until they leave the confines of the Nerbudda Division.

The Chief Commissioner adds that no mention was made of the matter in the list of police cases sent to the Home Department, as no correspondence in the Police Department took place.

J. T. WHEELER,

Asst. Secretary to the Govt. of India,
Foreign Dept.

No. 1247 C, dated the 17th April 1872.

From—Colonel P. S. LUMSDEN, Quarter Master General.

To—The Secretary to the Government of India, Military Dept.

I AM directed by the Right Honourable the Commander-in-Chief to submit, for such action as Government may be pleased to take thereon, the accompanying copy of a memorandum* received from the Officer Commanding the 16th Native Infantry, reporting having met an armed party of about 25 "Cashmerians" or "Kukanese" at Titalya, travelling under a pass, signed by some official at Lahore, and who are accused of having plundered villages along their route, and of keeping the districts through which they pass in a state of alarm and anxiety.

* No. 74, dated 27th March 1872, from Officer Commanding 16th Native Infantry.

No. 74, dated Julpigoree, the 27th March 1872.

Memorandum from—The Officer Commanding 16th Lucknow Regiment, Native Infantry.

To—The Quarter Master General.

THE Head Quarters and Right Wing, 16th Lucknow Regiment, Native Infantry, moving towards Julpigoree, Eastern Frontier District, under the orders of the Right Honourable the Commander-in-Chief, has to-day, at 9 A. M., arrived at Julpigoree.

To-day's "Daily State" is attached.

Remarks * * * * *

I would here remark that at Titalya I met a party of 25 Cashmerians or Kukanese armed; they had a pass signed by some authority at Lahore bearing date 1870. The ryots and villagers, as also Mr. Webb, a merchant, complained to me that these men were plundering the villages as they went along, and that in consequence a fair, which was to have commenced on the 24th, was stopt by the villagers being afraid to produce their goods. They are a villanous looking set, and say they are going to Sylhet to purchase elephants; they have travelled through Gwalior, Delhi, Moradabad, Calcutta, Dacca, Dinagepore, and are now at Titalya. I embody this information in this report, as I consider the Government should be informed of it. They are armed with double-barrelled guns and rifles; they wear a good deal of gold jewellery, and are well clothed. I hear at Dinagepore their arms were taken from them. I fancy they must have been restored, as I saw them. Mr. Lowis at Dinagepore, I believe, can give some information regarding the latter part of this statement.

No. 1322, dated the 22nd April 1872.

From—Colonel B. E. BACON, Deputy Secretary to the Govt. of India, Military Department.

To—The Secretary to the Government of Bengal.

I AM directed to forward, for such notice as the Honourable the Lieutenant-Governor may deem necessary, the accompanying copy of papers* on the subject of the alleged plundering of certain villages by a body of about 25 armed Cashmerians or Kukanese in the neighbourhood of Titalya, and to request that His Honor may be moved to furnish the Government of India in this Department with any available information in the matter.

* Quarter Master General No. 1247 C, dated 17th April 1872, and enclosure.

No. 1322 A.

COPY of the foregoing forwarded to the Home Department for information.

Office Memorandum No. 2334, dated the 14th May 1872.

WITH reference to the endorsement from the Military Department, No. 1322 A, dated the 22nd ultimo, relative to the alleged plunder of certain villages by a body of Cashmerians or Kukanese, the undersigned is directed to request that this Department may be furnished with a copy of the report on the subject which may be submitted by the Government of Bengal.

E. C. BAYLEY,
Secretary to the Govt. of India.

To the Military Department.

No. 2649, dated the 25th April 1872.

From—C. BERNARD, Esq., Offg. Secretary to the Government of Bengal, Judicial Department.

To—The Deputy Secretary to the Government of India, Military Department.

From Commissioner, Cooch Behar,
No. 56 of 3rd April 1872.
No. 58 of 6th ditto.
No. 60 of 9th ditto,
with enclosures.
To Commissioner of Cooch Behar No. 2645 of this day's date.
To all Commissioners, &c., Nos. 2646 to 2648 of this day's date.

IN reply to your letter No. 1322 of the 22nd instant, I am directed to submit a copy of the correspondence noted in the margin, containing all the information that has yet reached this Government on the subject of the alleged oppressive behaviour of a body of armed Kokanese in the neighbourhood of Titalya, and showing the action which this Government is taking in respect of these men.

No. 56, dated Julpigoree, the 3rd April 1872.

From—Colonel J. C. HAUGHTON, C. S. I., Commissioner of the Cooch Behar Division.

To—The Secretary to the Government of Bengal.

RECENTLY the Deputy Commissioner of Julpigoree received a communication from the Officer Commanding 16th Native Infantry, copy of which is annexed, intimating that on arival at Titalya he had been informed of the appearance of a number of persons there, whose illegal violence had caused the persons attending the Titalya fair to close their shops, and he was appealed to for protection. The presence of the regiment appears to have effectually put a stop to the panic caused by the presence of these persons, and addditional police were sent out to preserve order and to send in offenders. In the meantime a body, numbering about thirty-eight men, women and children appeared at this station, whom I believe to be the persons, and on this point I have

no doubt, from perusal of their documents and comparison of them with the copies forwarded by the Officer Commanding the 16th Native Infantry.

2. The men speak of themselves as Cashmerees or Kokanese, settled in Cashmere. One of them, fairer than the rest, said that his family were from Kokan, but had been settled for two generations in Cashmere at Sheregullee. I have no means of testing his statement. Two others, who voluntarily appeared before me, seemed to me to be unmistakeably natives of the South of Persia. One of them this day told another adventurer, to whom I shall refer hereafter, that he was one of a body of five hundred who came from Kirman, in Persia, some four years ago.

3. It appears to be the policy of these people to move rapidly from place to place, living chiefly by thefts and petty violence. They avoid thus the action of the law regarding persons *lurking* in a district having no ostensible means of livelihood. The people to whom I am now referring profess to deal in ponies, precious stones, and pearls. The stock exhibited to the Deputy Commissioner of the latter articles consisted of what they admitted were glass imitations of stones and sham pearls. They talk of going to Sylhet and Dacca to buy elephants, thence to Madras. They have cash Rs. 500, and seven guns, for which they hold licenses from Alipore, Hooghly, and Purneah. These, I have reason to believe from the information of a spy sent among them are kept for trade, bought where they can get them cheap, to be re-sold where they can get a profit.

4. I have this day a telegram from the Deputy Commissioner of Cooch Behar intimating that a similar body, who now call themselves Cashmerees, numbering fifty-two souls, have come to Cooch Behar. They are described as "similar to those who appear annually". They came escorted from Rungpore by police, and are now detained pending orders.

5. I have no doubt but the gang now spread abroad are members of a large body, which are reported to have come from the South of Persia some years ago by ship to Kurrachee, and everywhere proved to be a nuisance. Then, as now, they were passed on from district to district by the police. In some districts police did not take cognizance of them, in other districts they did. They passed through Cooch Behar and up to Gowhattee, where they became embroiled with the villagers in consequence of some petty acts of plundering, and where, as they acknowledge to me, one of their number was imprisoned for culpable homicide. These persons then professed to live chiefly by alms; now it would seem that they are sturdy beggars, and snatch and pilfer where they cannot obtain what they ask.

6. The conduct of the police at Titalya appears to have been extremely unsatisfactory, and will be a subject of separate report. The idea of getting up a subscription to get rid of the rogues, and of introcing them to wealthy persons, from whom to exact alms, is, I trust, novel.

7. This day the Deputy Commissioner of Cooch Behar has informed me that he had arrested an individual calling himself an Arab, and a native of Medina, on whom two copies of the proclamation previously referred to were found, and whom he has detained pending instruction. There can be little doubt that this person, like others who have been mentioned in previous communications, is engaged in circulating a proclamation which requires all who hear it to disseminate it on pain of eternal damnation, and has committed an offence under Section 508 of the Penal Code.

8. This day also two Mahomedans calling themselves Arabs, one of whom, I believe, to be an Arab, appeared before me, asking aid to enable them to reach Bombay, as they had been engaged in mercantile speculations, and had lost their property. One appeared to be a respectable Mahomedan of Arabia or the Gulf. He affected to speak nothing but Arabic, which I cannot speak. The other, evidently a man of inferior class, spoke Persian freely and stated their case. From the demeanour of the principal man, I am of opinion that he is probably a religious fanatic, who has engaged the inferior as his guide or servant. The latter related to me without reserve his conversation with the *soidisant* Kokanese, which, coupled with my own observations, left no doubt, but that they were mainly from the South of Persia.

9. It is not practicable for Magistrates ordinarily to get such information against these foreigners as will enable them to deal with them legally and efficiently. As yet the law does not appear to apply to such cases except on complaint. The so-called Kokanese have an ostensible means of livelihood. They do, like the gipsies at home (now), profess to trade. They do no doubt sell imitation gems and pearls; they do sell if they do not buy ponies; they move so rapidly that the police can scarcely get anything tangible against them under the law before they are out of reach; and, as a rule, their offences are of a class which render it much better for those concerned to put up with the short enduring evil, than come and spend days at the Magistrate's court in prosecuting complaints.

10. It is certainly not to the credit of our Government that people of this sort are allowed to roam about from year to year, an undoubted nuisance, without scarcely any check upon them; who parade the orders, showing that they are suspected persons, as permissions to travel. We have made laws for the repression of European vagrants; but I know of none which can be applied to the classes I have described, which are of immediate application. Ship masters, as far as I am aware, may import any number of foreign vagrants not being Europeans, without question into any port in India, and the fact of the Mahomedan pilgrimages, after which a very large proportion of the pilgrims return as mendicants, will account for this.

11. I have mentioned these two classes of persons together, because it appears to me that one course ought to be applied to both. The Act regarding foreigners, No. III. of 1864, seems to be the only one

which can be applied to them, but it requires a notification from the Governor General in Council, which, unless limited, would affect a great number of people, Europeans as well as Asiatics, to whom it would be excessively undesirable to apply it. There are numerous bands of men from Cabool, Kandahar, Ghuznee, Peshawar, Dehra Ishmail Khan, and the Derajat, Cashmere, and probably from many other quarters, who are inoffensive and engage in *bonâ fide* trade, to whom the application of the law quoted would be very troublesome, and who give no trouble to the public.

12. The gipsy class are not comprehended in the Act No. XXVII. of 1871.

The religious fanatics cannot be dealt with unless Act III. of 1864 be put into execution.

13. I will only say, in conclusion, that it appears to me highly desirable that executive officers should be armed with higher powers than they now possess in dealing with such tribes or individuals. The tribes or individuals appearing in Cooch Behar will be detained pending the orders of Government. There can, to my mind, be no question, but that both classes greatly trouble the rural population—the one by petty thefts and violence, the other by pretences to sanctity and authority, under cover of which they are now disturbing the minds of the people.

No. 65, dated Camp Titalya, the 25th March 1872.

From—Lieutenant-Colonel GIRDLESTONE, Commanding 16th Lucknow Regiment.

To—The Deputy Commissioner of Julpigoree.

I HAVE the honour to report that, on arrival here this morning, some ryots and villagers, as also Mr. Webb, a merchant here, complained that a party of twenty-five armed Cashmerees or Kokanese had been plundering them, and that in consequence a fair, which was to have been held this day, was stopped, the villagers shutting their shops and not producing their goods. I believe the arrival of my regiment has restored confidence to some extent. These men are armed with double-barrelled guns and rifles, and have a good deal of gold jewellery about them. They have a pass signed by some authority at Lahore in 1870. They appear to have travelled through Gwalior, Delhi, Moradabad, Calcutta, Dacca, and Dinagepore. At the latter place I hear they were detained, and their arms taken from them for a time.

They say they are going to Sylhet to purchase elephants. I consider this statement very questionable, as they were nearer to Sylhet when they were at Dacca. They are a villanous looking set, and I give this information as I think the Government should be informed of it.

I believe they are going through Julpigoree shortly. I have included the above information in a report to the Officer Commanding the Eastern Frontier District, as also to the Quarter Master General of the Army.

No. 58, dated Julpigore, the 6th April 1872.

From—Colonel J. C. HAUGHTON, C. S. I., Commissioner of the Cooch Behar Division.

To—The Offg. Secretary to the Government of Bengal, Judicial (Political) Department.

IN continuation of my letter No. 56 of 3rd instant, I have now the honour to forward the statements of the two individuals calling themselves Arabs found here. It will be seen that one Shaik Mahomed, who is a sturdy young man, admits that he came to Calcutta solely for the purpose of begging. I have ascertained that the other was at Darjeeling more than a year ago; his story, that he came to trade, appears to me very doubtful, for cotton cloth *(parcha)* and silk are not, I believe, exports from the Persian Gulf to India. He also professes to know the man detained at Cooch Behar, and says he is a horse-dealer; but from the report of the Deputy Commissioner and the man's own statement it would appear that this is incorrect. I beg to forward the documents in original.

Statement of SYUD MAHOMED SHURREEF, *son of* IBRAHIM HOSSEIN, *native of Bagdad.*

I LIVED in my own country by trade. My ancestors were respectable people of Bagdad. In 1287 *Hijree* I came to India in ship *Shub Shigof* (?) for the purpose of trade. I went from Bombay to Banda, where I lost all my property by robbery. I went from Banda to Darjeeling in search of employ, but got none. I am now seeking employment, or the means of returning to my country. I have only come to this place for the reasons stated. I came from my own country alone. If I get the means of returning to my country, I will go by Rungpore to Calcutta and thence to Bagdad, or if I get emyloyment here I will remain here. My goods consisted of cloths (cotton) and silk. This statement I have written with my own hand. At Darjeeling I met Abdool Ruzzak and Dewan Nubee Bux. I do not know any one else.

Statement of SHAIK MAHOMED, *son of* SHAIK ABDOOLA, *resident of Medina.*

I CAME seven months ago on a ship to Calcutta from my own country. The reason was I am in debt at home. I therefore came to Bengal intending to beg from the *Sahiban.* I have no other object. I came alone. I stayed ten or fifteen days in Calcutta, and came by Burdwan and Purneah to this. If I get the means it is my intention to return home; if not, I will go by Rungpore and Dinagepore to Bombay and trade. I do not know how to read or write. There is no one who knows me in this country. I have travelled begging five days here and ten there.

No. 160, dated Cooch Behar, the 3rd April 1872.

From—T. Smith, Esq., Deputy Commissioner of Cooch Behar.

To—The Commissioner of the Cooch Behar Division.

In continuation of my telegram sent to you this morning, I have the honour to report, for your information and orders, that I have detained, under police surveillance, an Arab fakeer from Medina, named Syed Ahmed.

2. The fact of this fakeer being in Cooch Behar at the house of Sahibuddeen, Mooktear, was accidentally discovered yesterday by myself, his arrival not being known to the police or to any of the State officials, although he came here about a week ago.

3. The Fouzdaree Ahelkar, acting on my instructions, took possession of the fakeer's books and papers yesterday. Among the latter have been found one Hindoostanee and one Bengali copy of the proclamation (concerning Mahomed Saleh's dream and the *Keamut*), which has been widely circulated in this part of the country, and a translation of which was forwarded to you lately under demi-official cover.

4. A copy of the fakeer's statement, taken at my request to-day by the Dewan, is forwarded herewith.

5. The man is evidently an Arab, and, as far as one can judge from appearances, seems to be simply a religious mendicant. At present the only ground of suspicion against him is his having copies of the above-mentioned proclamation in his possession.

Statement made by Syed Ahmed Hafiz, *dated Cooch Behar, the* 3rd *April* 1872.

I am a resident of Medina. My father, Syed Rezoan, first used to live at Bagdad; he afterwards left that place and took up his abode at Medina. He is dead. I left Medina about a year ago; embarked on board a ship at Jedda and landed in Bombay. Afterwards I came to Calcutta in the month of *Shahban* (October). In Calcutta I used to live in a musjid. I then went to Dacca, where I saw different Mahomedan gentlemen. I lived at Gunny Meea's for two or three days. Afterwards I came to the house of Azim Chowdhry, of Dulai, where I finished the Ramzan ceremony. From Dulai I went to Nattore; there I lived in the musjid of Russeed Mea. I came next to Chowgong. The Hindoo Rajah of that place was very kind to me. I travelled then to Bogra, and thence to Rungpore. I do not know the names of all the different places I went to. I came here *viâ* Malipore and Kankina. I reached this on Thursday last, and first went to the musjid; I was then told that there was a Mooktear Sahib who was very kind-hearted, and that I might live with him. I afterwards went over to this Mooktear's, where I was received kindly. I came to India with the object of receiving alms (*khairat*). In different places gentlemen paid me money for my expenses.

People gave me money for their own spiritual benefit. I sent Rs. 250 home for my wife and children. I intend to go to Assam; and if I live I would return home; but this life is transitory, and I do not know whether I shall live or not.

I had come to India on another occasion. A paper in Persian was delivered to me at the time while I was at Sylhet. I could not read this paper, as I did not know Persian. When I returned home this paper went with me. It relates to the false rumour about the *keamut*. I do not know the name of the person who delivered the paper to me. In Arabia I asked people about the *keamut*; they said that the rumour was totally false.

This time when I came to Dulai, people asked me about the *keamut*. I said that the rumour was groundless. There is a man named Mahomed Saleh who lives sometimes at Mocha and sometimes at Medina; he is a learned man. I never put him any questions about the *keamut*. We met each other after my return from Sylhet to Arabia.

I do not exactly remember in what year I went to Sylhet, and how long I remained in India at the time. This is the second time I have come to India from Sylhet. I took with me a quantity of *agur* wood. I used to live in the musjid there. I never went to Abdul Kadir's, as he is not liberal to fakeers.

I cannot say where I got the Bengali paper about the *keamut;* some Mahomedans might have given it to me. It is customary amongst us to receive papers delivered in the name of *Ulla*.

I cannot say how the rumour about the *keamut* originated. I am conversant with the Arabian language only, and can speak a little Hindi.

Taken by me,

KALIKA DASS DUTT,

Dewan.

No. 60, dated Julpigoree, the 9th April 1872.

From—Colonel J. C. HAUGHTON, C. S. I., Commissioner of the Cooch Behar Division.

To—The Offg. Secretary to the Government of Bengal, Judicial Department.

No. 56, dated 3rd April 1872.

WITH reference to my letter, number and date as per margin, I have the honour to state the gang of Persian-speaking people, calling themselves Cashmerees or Kokanese, the main subject of it at this place, left of their own accord for Rungpore on the 3rd instant. On arriving near the frontier they detached two of the gang to Cooch Behar, where they were arrested on arrival. The gang, instead of pursuing their

original direction to Rungpore, turned off into Cooch Behar, where they will be detained pending the orders of Government. The entire number at Cooch Behar will be about ninety souls.

2. This Office is so recently established that it is very deficient in the ordinary records—the orders of Government. I have, however, a very distinct impression that the issue of *rahdari* perwannahs, which these people possess, was prohibited a good many years ago. They have made good capital of the documents given to them, and everywhere parade them as license to travel.

3. It will be seen from the document annexed that the documents or copies of documents given to them from October 1871 to 1st March 1872 have the tendency to legalize them, and that the gang have gradually increased. Their guns have increased from 2 to 7, and their number from 16 to 38. The order of the Magistrate of Purneah of 1st ultimo not only passes them, but to a certain extent accredits their commodities for trade as pearls and turquois articles, of which they appear to have only imitations here, representing a very small value.

4. I believe these orders are most pernicious, and, further, rarely read. They are freely exhibited as permissions from the authorities to travel unquestioned, to be supplied with provisions, and so forth.

5. So much of the gang as visit Cooch Behar will be detained there pending the orders of Government. They have probably recruited from many sources in their wanderings, but I have no doubt the main body are members of a larger number who came from Persia *viâ* Kurrachee some years ago.

6. I would recommend—

(1)—That every one found in Bengal be sent back, if possible, to the place he came from at once.

(2)—That they may not be allowed to carry arms under any circumstances.

(3)—That Magistrates be prohibited from giving *rahdari* perwannahs or licenses to travel to any but Envoys from Foreign States duly accredited to frontier authorities, and passed on by them.

From—PEERBUX, Kotwal of Khairpore.

To—All the Police Officers.

HAZEE KHAN, of Kokan, Zillah Cashmere.—It appears from a robakaree from the Superintendent of Police of Jullundhur, dated 12th November 1870, which was given to him according to the orders of the Governor General in Council, the man with his followers arrived here. It appears from the contents of this perwannah that it is absolutely necessary that two constables should remain with them. A guard of constables has come here with these travellers; therefore this document

is given to them with a view that all the officials will be pleased to render them assistance. Dated 19th April 1871.

List of persons—Men, women, and children, numbering sixteen.

(ILLEGIBLE.)

Orders of the Magistrate of Rewan.

TO ALL THE GOVERNMENT POLICE OFFICERS BETWEEN HASNA TO ALLAHABAD AND PATNA.

WHEREAS Woojir Khan and Ali Khan, with about twenty or thirty-two people—men, women, and children—natives of "Kahame", mountaineers of ilakaa Cashmere, have this day arrived here from the direction of Jeypore, for the purpose of going to Allahabad, the perwannahs or other documents which these people possess, which were given to them by the Deputy Commissioner of Jubbulpore, District Superintendent of Police, Jullundhur, and the Lahore Government, have been perused, ordering that no one may interfere with them, and to protect them by the aid of police. Therefore it is hereby ordered that one and all will conduct them safely within their respective jurisdiction to Allahabad, so that no one may prevent their movement. Price must be realized and paid for any rations, &c., they may take. Dated 16th October 1871.

(ILLEGIBLE.)
Magistrate.

Order of the Joint Magistrate of Zillah Sarun.

TO ALL OFFICIALS.

WHEREAS Gool Mahomed, Jemadar, native of Cashmere, with twenty-five persons, with horses and two guns, are travelling for the purpose of trade, this order is given so that no obstacles may be thrown in their way. They may be supplied with *russud* on payment. Dated 6th January 1872.

(ILLEGIBLE.)
Joint Magistrate.

Order of the Deputy Magistrate of Purneah.

TO THE POLICE OFFICERS.

WHEREAS Hazee Khan and his companions, natives of Cashmere, numbering twenty-five souls, are travelling for the purpose of trade from zillah to zillah, they have with them ponies for riding and two guns. This order is given to them in order that no one will interfere with them,

and cause *russuds* to be given on paying for the same. Dated 26th February 1872.

EDWARD STUART,
Deputy Magistrate.

Order of the Magistrate of Purneah.

TO THE OFFICERS OF POLICE BETWEEN PURNEAH AND MALDAH.

WHEREAS Gool Mahomed Khan, Jemadar of Kokan, Zillah Cashmere, with twenty-five souls, including women and children, with two guns and ponies, for the purpose of trading in pearl, turquois, *nade ali*, &c., is now going *vid* Maldah to Sylhet, he holds perwannahs given by the officials of Sarun, Tirhoot and Ghazeepore; therefore you are hereby warned against interfering with him or his people; he should be supplied with articles of food on his paying for the same.

This must be observed that this perwannah is not given to oppress any one. The meaning of this purwannah is this—that if these people do not oppress any one, they may also not be oppressed by any one. Dated 1st March 1872.

J. B. WORGAN,
Magistrate of Purneah.

No. 2645, dated the 25th April 1872.

From—C. BERNARD, Esq., Officiating Secretary to the Government of Bengal, Judicial Department.

To—The Commissioner of Cooch Behar.

No. 56 of 3rd April 1872.
No. 58 of 6th ditto.
No. 60 of 9th ditto.

I AM directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letters noted in the margin regarding a lawless band of foreigners, said to be Kokanese or Persians, found wandering in the District of Julpigoree and in Cooch Behar, and also regarding two religious mendicants, calling themselves Arabs, found in Cooch Behar.

2. In reply, I am to say that the Lieutenant-Governor has decided on dealing with both these sets of men under the provisions of Act III. of 1864, and I am to forward orders in writing directing them to remove themselves from British India by a route to be filled in by you and reported to this Office. You are also requested to fill in the names of these foreigners in the schedules attached to the orders of removal, and to warn the Magistrates of all the districts along the prescribed route, in order that the police may keep them under surveillance during their passage through British territory.

3. The Lieutenant-Governor also thinks that there is sufficient warrant for the Magistrate of the District withdrawing from the Kokanese their license to carry arms under Section 28 of the Arms Act, and for his enforcing such withdrawal; and I am to request that you will issue the necessary orders on this point.

Nos. 2646 to 2648, dated the 25th April 1872.

From—A. MACKENZIE, Esq., Junior Secretary to the Government of Bengal, Judicial Department.

To—All Commissioners.

To—The Commissioner of Police, Calcutta.

To—The Inspector General of Police, Lower Provinces.

IT has been brought to notice of Government that bands of foreigners of suspicious character are occasionally to be found wandering about Bengal, intimidating the villagers under the pretence of trade. I am accordingly directed to draw your attention to the instructions as to the mode of treating such bands, contained in the letter from the Government of India, Home Department, No. 72—4549 of the 12th November 1868, which was circulated by this Government on the 9th December following, and a copy of which is again forwarded herewith for ready reference.

2. I am especially to request that the rule there laid down against the promiscuous grant of *rahdari* perwannahs may be strictly enforced. In a case now before Government it appears that such passes have been most improperly granted, and undue advantage taken of them by a gang of the kind described. I am also to remind Magistrates of the instructions then issued, directing that the provisions of the Arms Act should be rigorously enforced against such vagrants.

No. 284, dated the 6th May 1872.

Endorsed by the Military Department.

COPY of the above forwarded to the Home Department for information, in continuation of No. 1322 A, dated 22nd April 1872.

No. 2602, dated Simla, the 20th June 1872.

From—H. W. WELLESLEY, Esq., Officiating Under Secretary to the Government of India.

To—The Secretary to the Government of Bengal, Judicial Department.

I AM directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter No. 2649, dated the 25th April last, to the address of the Military Department,

and in reply to state that the Governor General in Council approves the orders issued by the Honourable the Lieutenant-Governor regarding the band of foreigners said to be Kokanese or Persians recently found wandering in the District of Julpigoree and in Cooch Behar.

2. I am at the same time to request that you will be good enough to communicate to Mr. J. B. Worgan, Magistrate of Purneah, the dissatisfaction of the Governor General in Council at his conduct in granting a perwannah to Gool Mahomed Khan and his party. From his standing and position in the service, Mr. Worgan should have known better than to grant a perwannah in the face of repeated orders prohibiting the issue of such documents.

No. 619, dated Calcutta, the 31st January 1873.

From—A. Mackenzie, Esq., Offg. Secretary to the Government of Bengal in the Judicial Department.

To—The Secretary to the Government of India in the Home Department.

I am directed to forward, for the consideration and orders of His Excellency the Governor General in Council, the selected papers quoted on the margin, having reference to a band of foreigners who allege that they belong to Lus Beyla, and who have been wandering for the past three years in different parts of Bengal.

Proceedings for December 1872, Nos. 299-300, 303—6 and 308.

2. It appears that the party originally consisted of 110 persons, who about three years ago left Cashmere where they had been for some time. Since that time they have travelled in the Punjab, the North-Western Provinces, probably also in the Central Provinces, and have made their way into Bengal from Allahabad. After visiting several of the Behar districts they proceeded to Bograh, Mymensing and Chittagong, and thence by steamer to Rangoon. Returning to Chittagong, they divided themselves into two bands, and travelling separately, but following very similar routes through Tipperah or Noakholly to the Sylhet and Khasi Hills Districts, they finally met again at Gowhatty; and after wandering over Assam passed down to Julpigoree, one party going on to Bograh and the other to Caragolah.

3. Wherever they have gone they have proved a source of annoyance and terror to the inhabitants, and have frequently been guilty of committing acts of petty mischief and plunder. Some members of the gangs have also been committed for trial for dacoity. Under these circumstances the local officers have found it necessary to watch and control their movements. The Commissioners of the Divisions through which they have travelled are strongly of opinion that such bands of

foreigners, who are of superior physique to the natives of this country, should not be allowed to roam in this way through Bengal, and recommend that they be sent back to their own country.

4. To this end the Inspector General of Police was last November directed to have both the gang at Bogra and that at Caragolah removed to, and kept under police surveillance in the Bhaugulpore District, pending the orders of Government for their disposal.

5. The Commissioner of Bhaugulpore now reports the arrival at Bhaugulpore of both these gangs, numbering 105 souls; states that they are very troublesome, and that it is exceedingly difficult to manage them. He also forwards the papers found upon them (as by the enclosed list) which appear to be only passes granted to individual members of the gang to carry arms, &c., and asks for the issue of early orders for their disposal.

6. In the orders of the Government of India quoted on the margin, it was decided to treat such bands under the provisions of Act III. of 1864, which enables Government to order them to remove themselves from British India, but this plan is by no means satisfactory. It is always necessary to depute police to remain with them, and the police force of these Provinces is hardly strong enough to enable the local officers to do this conveniently. Expense is invariably thrown upon Government, which is glad to pay their railway fares to be the sooner rid of them.

No. 72—4549, dated the 12th November 1868.

7. This is the third gang of wandering foreigners who have visited Bengal since 1868, and it would seem that these Provinces are liable to further incursions from similar bands. The Lieutenant-Governor thinks that some uniform system should be followed by the Local Governments of the Punjab and the North-Western Provinces in granting passes to such men to visit British India, and that a check should be placed at the frontier upon their incursions.

8. It has been suggested that the present party should be sent round by sea to Kurrachee. But if His Excellency in Council approves, the Lieutenant-Governor will, under Section 3, Act III. of 1864, direct them to remove themselves through the North-Western Provinces and the Punjab out of British India, the names of the districts through which they should pass being settled hereafter in communication with the other Governments concerned. And I am to request that in that case the necessary instructions may be issued to those Governments to send them across the border to their own country.

List of papers of the first batch of Cashmerees.

1. License in English, dated 10th December 1870, granted by the Assistant Magistrate of Mirzapore, to Bahadoor Khan Jamadar, a resident of Cashmere, to carry arms—one gun and one sword, for one year 1

2. License in English, dated 13th December 1870, granted by the Officiating Joint Magistrate of Benares, to Gholam Abbas, a resident of Cashmere, to carry arms—one gun ... 1

3. License in English, dated 14th December 1870, granted by the Officiating Joint Magistrate of Benares, to Bahadoor Khan Jamadar, a resident of Cashmere, to carry arms—one gun and one sword, for one year 1

4. Roobocary in Hindustani (or a certificate), dated 21st December 1870, granted by the Assistant Magistrate of Ghazeepore, to Gholam Abbas, a resident of Cashmere, to carry arms in Ghazeepore in accordance with terms of license marked 2 ... 1

5. License in Hindustani, dated 4th January 1871, granted by the Joint Magistrate of Sarun, to Mahomed Khan, a resident of Cashmere, to carry a gun on a journey 1

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List of papers of the second batch of Cashmerees.

6. License in English, dated 7th July 1870, granted by the Officiating Cantonment Magistrate of (not read), to Malik Khan, a resident of Cashmere, to keep one gun 1

7. License in Hindustani, dated 4th January 1871, granted by the Joint Magistrate of Sarun, to Morad Khan, of Cashmere, to carry a gun on a journey 1

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Bengal Proceedings Nos. 299 and 300.

No. 8406, dated Fort William, the 13th November 1872.

From—Colonel J. R. Pughe, Inspector General of Police, Lower Provinces.

To—The Offg. Secretary to the Government of Bengal, Judicial Department.

With reference to your No. 5927, dated 25th ultimo, on the subject of certain gangs of Cashmerees or other foreigners who have been frequently found wandering about the Lower Provinces during the last two or three years, I have the honour to report as follows.

2. There have been two distinct bands, and it seems very doubtful whether these bands have ever had any connection the one with the other. The first of these to be noticed is that which was deported from Cooch Behar, Purneah, &c., through Bhaugulpore. This party, it would seem, at the time they were sent from the Cooch Behar Division, consisted of 91 individuals—men, women and children; but by the time they had got to Shahabad, from whence they went on to Ghazeepore, they had increased to 136 persons; doubtless stragglers were picked up on the roads, who found it convenient to return to their homes, and thus to have *russud*, &c., provided for them along the road. This was the party that gave some trouble at the Doomraon railway station at the end of last July. It has now passed into the North-West Provinces.

3. The second band is that which has given rise to recent correspondence, and which is still giving trouble in Bogra and the adjacent districts.

4. It would appear from the statements made on several different occasions, and in several different districts, that this body consisted originally of about 110 persons—men, women and children; that they started from Cashmere some three years ago; that after travelling in the Punjab, the North-West, and (probably) the Central Provinces, they made their way into Bengal by Allahabad, Ghazeepore, &c. They then visited several of the Behar districts, from whence they proceeded to Bogra and Mymensing. They certainly passed through Bogra in March or April 1871. From Mymensing they seem to have gone to Naraingunge; thence through Comillah to Chittagong and Arracan, and by steamer to Rangoon; then to have gone to Toungoo, and thence by land, bringing ponies, &c., with them through Arracan to Chittagong, where they arrived in March last.

5. The letter received from the District Superintendent of Chittagong is so vague that but little information can be gained from it as to the movements of the gang between May 1871 (when they first appeared in the Chittagong District) and March 1872. The District Superintendent seems to have been under the impression that during the whole of that time they were hanging about on the skirts of the Chittagong District; whereas, in reality, during that period they made their journey to Burma and back. The Magistrate of Chittagong has been asked for further information.

6. On leaving Chittagong they separated into two bands—one consisting, it is said by the Magistrate of Chittagong, of 75 or 80 persons, which went to Comillah, the other of 48, which took a route by Noacolly. The latter body went through the Comillah and Sylhet Districts to Cuttack, and thence to Cherrapoonjee and Shillong. This party after leaving Noacolly also went through the District and station of Comillah, but did not visit the sudder station of Sylhet. They arrived at Shillong at the latter end of May last, and then numbered 47 souls. There appears to be some difficulty as to where this party was during nearly the whole month of May. The Magistrate of Sylhet was evidently

unaware of their having been in this district at all. The other and larger party took a more direct route through Comillah, and arrived at Sylhet in the beginning of April, remaining there till the middle of June. They were reported when they left Comillah to number about 65 souls.

7. I am myself under the impression that small detached parties of two and three at a time passed backwards and forwards between these two main bodies, and that this accounts for the slight discrepancies as to numbers which appear in the several reports.

8. It has been seen that the smaller party, consisting of 47 persons, arrived at Shillong in May. They then stated that two of their number had gone to Sylhet, and they were waiting for them.

9. On the 19th of June a party of 41 arrived at Gowhatty, and they were subsequently joined by 77 more, making a total of 118, so that in some way or other their numbers had increased between the time they broke into two parties on the frontier of the Chittagong District, and the time they reunited in the neighbourhood of Gowhatty. From Gowhatty a party of first 11, and afterwards 60, went down towards Gowalparah, and the remaining 47 went through Nowgong to Seebsagur. It has been reported by the Commissioner of Assam that these also went off in two parties on the 12th and 22nd September. They appear to have united again at Serajgunge, or somewhere in the neighbourhood; and the recent reports from Julpigoree and from Bogra show that 75 souls are now in the Bogra District, and 33 at Julpigoree. This accounts for nearly the whole party.

10. Wherever they have gone in the Lower Bengal districts, they seem to have misconducted themselves. There were serious complaints against them in Chittagong, in Noacolly, in Sylhet, in the Khasi Hills, in Assam, and now in Bogra. Two special reports, lately received from the last mentioned district, are hereto attached. There can be little doubt whatever that they support themselves chiefly by robberies and thefts, and it is more than probable that through fear many offences committed by them are never brought to light. In the month of February last a party of them reached Luckhee Serai, and attempted to get kids and other articles at their own price. The villagers rushed to the railway station, and the Bengalee station-master at once telegraphed to Jamalpore that the *Sonthals were attacking his station*. Upon this, the volunteers at Jamalpore were forthwith turned out, and would actually have been sent up the line by a special train, had not a European fortunately arrived at Lukhee Serai and telegraphed down the real facts of the case. From the above it may be easily imagined the terror they cause in the villages of Lower Bengal. It seems most desirable, therefore, that such gangs should be stopped as soon as they enter British territories. These and similar bodies have apparently come away from the Punjab with the consent at least of the local authorities. It has hitherto been the custom either to take no notice of them, or to pass them on under the surveillance of the police.

BENGAL POLICE.

SPECIAL REPORT OF CRIME.

No. 14—(First Report).

Bogra, the 15th October 1872.

Description of offence and names of parties concerned.	No. of Persons. Supposed to have been concerned.	Arrested.	Amount of property plundered.	Amount of property recovered.	Statement of the nature of crime, the conduct of police, and measures taken to arrest and bring offender to punishment.
SUBJECT. Arrival in the Bogra District of a gang of foreigners. Date and hour of receipt of intelligence at district head quarters. 2 P. M., 15th October 1872.					Sub-Inspector Lalla Bungshi Gopal, in charge of the Sherepore Police Station, reports that at 10 P. M. yesterday intelligence reached him of the arrival that day in the the town of Sherepore of gang of some 80 or 90 Cashmerees (males and females) with ponies.

The foreigners had come from the direction of the South. The Sub-Inspector further reports that 17 or 18 women of the gang had entered the house of Minno, a prostitute, during her absence from home, and after breaking open a tin-box in her dwelling-house had possessed themselves of property valued at Rs. 93-8. The persons of several of the gang were subsequently searched, but no stolen property was forthcoming. The Sub-Inspector states that the gang oppress the people and intimidate those who show any disposition to resist their oppressions by bumping their own children against the ground, apparently with a view of leading the inhabitants to fear that false charges of hurt will be subsequently lodged against them in consequence.

2. This report has been submitted under instructions from the Magistrate, and agreeably to the provisions of Inspector General's circular No. 11 of 1872, with a view to the deportation of the foreigners. Under the Magistrate's orders the police have also been directed to report whether they have any *substantial* business or trade; also where they come from, and what language they talk.

3. I have deputed the Divisional Inspector to the spot, and am also sending an escort of one head constable and eight men to watch the movements of the gang.

E. A. VINES,

District Supdt. of Police.

No. 1020, dated Bogra, the 16th October 1872.

Endorsed by the District Superintendent of Police.

FORWARDED to the Magistrate for despatch to the Office of the Inspector General of Police. The Magistrate is solicited to (if necessary) superscribe the cover sending on the report.

No. 14 A, dated Bogra, the 16th October 1872.

Endorsed by the Officiating Magistrate of Bogra.

FORWARDED in original to the Office of the Inspector General of Police, Lower Provinces. A duplicate goes by this post to the Commissioner of Rajshahye.

As far as my present information goes, these people do not seem to have any adequate means of earning a livelihood. I have called for particulars, and shall submit a further report as soon as I receive fuller information.

A second charge of theft has been brought against them, and appears true.

My present opinion is that they should be deported, but I will report further on this point.

BENGAL POLICE.

SPECIAL REPORT OF CRIME.

No. 14.—(Second Report).

Presence of a gang of foreigners and dacoity, Section 395, *Indian Penal Code, Bogra, the* 26*th October* 1872.

Description of offence and names of parties concerned.	No. of Persons		Amount of property plundered.	Amount of property recovered.	Statement of the nature of crime, the conduct of police, and measures taken to arrest and bring offender to punishment.
	Supposed to have been concerned.	Arrested.			
			Rs. A. P.		
Dacoity.—Section 395, Indian Penal Code. *Complainant.* Mataru Kagachia, on behalf of Tona Bewa *v.* (1.) Shapasandah Aurut. (2.) Fatema Aurut. (3.) Khanemi Aurut. (4.) Bara Surifuunesa Aurut. (5.) Chota ditto ditto. (6.) Gulnesa Aurut. (7.) Bara Gulbame Aurut. (8.) Chota ditto ditto. (9.) Shiar Bano Aurut. (10.) Shambi Aurut.	10	10	20 3 0	...	In continuation of my previous report I have learned that the vagrants in question are Cashmerees. They talk Hindustani very fairly, and they state they have been travelling now between two and three years. The same gang passed through this district in March last, when they stated that they were on

their way to Sylhet to purchase elephants. Their arrival was duly reported to the Commissioner—*vide* special report No. 6 of 1872, first and second report.

In my forwarding memorandum I noted that they appeared to be of much the same character as a gang that was deported from Balasore, under the orders of Government, some years ago. It was also stated in that report that the vagrants, after entering this district, were charged with having committed a theft in Rajshahye, and that subsequently it was alleged that some women of the party had committed a theft within the limits of the Adamdighi Police Station. No property, however, covered by either charge was found in their possession.

The Commissioner, however, in his No. 13 of the 2nd April 1872, replied that the band had passed through other districts, and that the men on the whole seemed well conducted, and that they should be watched out of the district, and notice of their departure sent ahead when they moved on.

They were accordingly watched by the police, and shortly afterwards left this district for Mymensing.

On the present occasion they had no sooner entered the district, than, as stated in my special report No. 14 A, two charges of theft were brought against them—the one case occurring at Sherpur, and the other at Shajapur, about five miles from Bogra.

The Sherpur case appears to be a true one, but is still under inquiry.

Some women of the party appear to have entered a prostitute's house there, and to have detained her in conversation, while others of the party robbed her of ornaments to the value of Rs. 93-8.

The second case I have myself investigated judicially ; two women are charged with entering a house during the absence of all the inmates, except an old woman, the complainant.

Some of them surrounded her, clamorously demanding eggs and fowls ; meanwhile another woman of the party entered a house, several others remaining at the door. The old woman cried out that they were looting her house, and four witnesses who were smoking close by came up in time to see the tresspasser issue from the house.

The witnesses, who seem to have been afraid of the women, moved on one side and allowed the band to retire.

Immediately after their departure the old woman went into her house, and found that a pair of armlets of silver and a nose-ring of gold, both of which she had seen that day very shortly before the arrival of the band, were missing from the earthenware vessel in her rice bin, in which they had been placed.

The one who entered the house and five others have been satisfactorily identified.

The complainant, Tona Aurut, states that she tried to go into the house, but that the women pushed her back.

I have therefore no doubt that the woman was wrongfully restrained, and that by the aid of the wrongful restraint the theft of the ornaments was effected.

The offence, as established by the evidence, therefore amounts to dacoity.

The accused endeavoured to make it appear that they had been charged by the villagers because they drank at a village well near the high road, and also because two of their ponies trespassed on a rice-field near the ground on which they subsequently halted; but as there is no well near the high road in the *parah* in which the complainant lives, and as the halting ground is three miles beyond the said *parah*, it is clear that the defence is a mere excuse.

It is quite certain that the villagers would only have been too glad to get rid of the foreigners, and would never have pursued them, as stated, for miles.

I should add that complaint of this offence was made by Mataru Kaggachi at the police station within two or three hours of its occurrence; that the divisional Inspector started at once for their camp, and stationing a guard over it, proceeded to the scene of the offence.

The next morning, accompanied by the witnesses, he returned to their camp, whereon confronting the witnesses with the women of the gang, ten of the accused were identified by them. The camp was also searched, but the stolen property was not found. Two lumps of silver were found, but they did not correspond in weight with the stolen property.

I have heard the following particulars regarding the gang generally:

The men have large sums of money in rupees and goldmohurs; some of them having as much as 100 goldmohurs each. They have, however, no ostensible means of livelihood save trade in ponies and in mock jewels.

It is exceedingly improbable that so large a gang could support itself by such means, and it is quite certain that they could not have thus honestly amassed the large sums which they possess. In fact, the villagers remarked to me with much force that they themselves found it hard enough to make both ends meet by honest labour, and that it was clear that these strangers, who had no occupation, but possessed large sums of money, were nothing but robbers.

The men state that on leaving Bogra they went *viâ* Mymensingh, Commillah and Chittagong, to Aracan; and that they returned by nearly the same route.

Curiously enough I met on the same day on which I visited the scene of the theft a party of natives of Chittagong who had come up to catch kingfishers. I asked them whether the Cashmerees had visited Chittagong, and they said that they had, and had committed many

thefts there; the women of the party entering houses and engaging the inmates in conversation, during which valuables were mysteriously spirited away.

In conclusion, I beg to recommend that the whole party be deported to Cashmere. I presume that it will be the wish of Government that the women who are charged in this particular case should be dealt with according to law in the usual manner. I should, therefore, commit them for trial at the sessions, which commence on the 4th proximo, unless I should receive instructions to the contrary before that date.

Bengal Progs., December 1872, No. 303.

No. 334, dated Julpigoree, the 15th November 1872.

From—Colonel J. C. HAUGHTON, C. S. I., Commissioner of the Cooch Behar Division.

To—The Offg. Secretary to the Government of Bengal, Judicial Department.

IN accordance with demi-official instructions from the Honourable the Lieutenant-Governor, I have directed the removal of the foreigners therein referred to to Caragola. They prove everywhere a source of annoyance and terror to the people, and the women are as bad as the men, and most expert thieves. Colonel Raban has recognized the leader as one of a gang who committed depredations at Cherrapoonjee, part of which gang is now at Bogra, where several members of it are said to be in jail.

2. I would beg to recommend that they may be sent away by sea to Kurrachee.

Bengal Progs., December 1872, Nos. 304 & 305.

No. 8651, dated Fort William, the 20th November 1872.

From—Colonel J. R. PUGHE, Inspector General of Police, Lower Provinces.

To—The Offg. Secretary to the Government of Bengal, Judicial Department.

IN continuation of my No. 8406, dated the 13th instant, and with reference to your No. 6222, dated the 12th idem, I have the honour to forward, for submission to the Lieutenant-Governor, copy of a report from Colonel Raban, Deputy Inspector General. After a personal inspection of the men referred to, his interview with them confirms what was previously reported by me.

2. Should the Lieutenant-Governor think it necessary to deport these people, I should be inclined to advise that they be sent from Caragola through the North-Western Provinces instead of by sea.

Dated Julpigoree, the 14th November 1872.

From—Colonel H. RABAN, Deputy Inspector General of Police.

To—The Inspector General of Police, Lower Provinces.

IN obedience to instructions contained in your telegram of yesterday's date, I this morning paid a visit to the place where the Cashmerees or Khorasanees, as they have been called, are now camping close to the jail compound at Julpigoree.

These people are, as I anticipated, a part of the gang which lately passed through the Khasia Hills from the Sylhet District to Gowhatty, where, as reported through the Commissioner of Assam, the two bands united for a time, but again separated, a part of them consisting of thirty-three men, women and children going on to Seebsaugor, and the remainder, I believe, taking a route through the Gowalpara and Mymensingh Districts, and eventually getting to Bogra, where, as I understood, when I left Calcutta a week ago, they were detained in consequence of certain members of the gang having been arrested on a charge of illegal restraint and robbery.

On the recent breaking up of the whole main body at Gowhatty, there seems to have been a change both in the numbers and persons of the two gangs. You will have seen from the reports you already have in your possession that there are two Bahadoor Khans, who generally seem to assume the leadership of bands when the whole body separates. The party nowhere is under the leadership of the Bahadoor Khan, who conducted the first party that passed through the Khasia Hills, and whom I myself saw at Shillong. The people nowhere are, or pretend to be, ignorant of the exact whereabouts of the larger party. They seem to know of their having gone towards the Gowalpara and Mymensingh Districts, but I believe they are really unacquainted with their subsequent movements.

From all I can ascertain, both from what I read in the reports received before I left Calcutta, and from what I have been told by the people themselves, both here and at Shillong, I am of opinion that the one gang left Cashmere about three years ago. They admit that they are not Cashmerees, and this also is tolerably evident by their appearance, but they now assert that at least the main body of them belong to Lus Beyla. They seem to be essentially a wandering people. They say that they have been backwards and forwards in Cashmere for some years past.

On the occasion of their leaving Cashmeer about three years ago, they say that they went by Jummoo. They were afterwards in Bhaugulpore, thence they got in their wanderings to Jubbulpore and to Nagpore, and from thence, *viâ* Seonee, to Mirzapore. Their report as to this part of their wanderings is very vague. It may be stated, however, that there can be little doubt that this one particular party, one hundred and six in number, of all ages and sexes, has virtually held together from

that time to this. They account for the small difference in their numbers (for it will be remembered that they numbered 110 when they were last at Chittagong) by saying that children have been born during their journeyings and that others have died.

From Mirzapore they passed on to Ghazeepore, and from thence crossed the Ganges and got into the Sarun District. The date of their passing through Sarun is fixed by a paper they have in their possession, signed by Mr. Gribble, which bears date January 31st, 1871. Thence through Tajpore, in Tirhoot, on to the Purneah District, visiting neither Mozufferpore nor the sudder station of Purneah on their way; and it is noticeable that throughout a considerable part of their travels they would seem purposely to have avoided passing through the principal towns. From Purneah they made their way through Dinagepore into Bogra, and thence through Jamalpore and Nusseerabad (the sudder station), in Mymensingh, to Naraingunge, and so across the Megna through Tipperah to Chittagong, where on this occasion they say that they remained for about two months. From Chittagong they went on by land to Arracan, and then by sea to Rangoon. They say that only two or three of their party went on to Moulmein. After remaining four or five months at Rangoon they went by land to Toungoo, and thence marched through Arracan and by Cox's Bazaar back to Chittagong. Thence, as is well known, they passed in two bodies—one *viâ* Comillah direct to Sylhet sudder station, the other by Noakhally and Comillah to Chattree, *viâ* the Sylhet District, and so up through the Khasia Hills. The party from the station of Sylhet afterwards passed through Shillong, and, as has been before shewn, united at Gowhatty. Their subsequent movements I have mentioned in the earlier part of my letter.

Their conduct seems to have varied in the different districts they have passed through. They have everywhere been looked on with suspicion, but whilst in some districts they have undoubtedly committed serious robberies; they have apparently passed through others without being guilty of any overt acts. That they gain their livelihood chiefly, if not entirely, by thieving can, I think, hardly be doubted.

Colonel Haughton, with whom I have been in communication, thinks it desirable that these people should be deported, and he would propose, I believe, to send the part of the band which is now here to Caragola Ghaut. If this be done, I think it would be desirable to bring the remainder of the band from Bogra down to Calcutta, to allow the Caragola party to join them there, and to take means for despatching the whole body by sea to Kurrachee, whence they would have little difficulty in reaching Lus Beyla, where they profess to wish to go.

So far as I am able to judge, this particular band had no connection with the so-called Kokanese, who were deported in the course of the present year. I see no reason to doubt that the account they give of their wanderings during the past three years is in the main correct. So far as I have any means of judging from the papers I saw in the

office, I should be disposed to think that this band (including the party at Bogra and the party here) is the only one which is now wandering about within the limits of the Bengal Government. I mean of course to speak of foreigners, and not of the nomadic bodies of Nutts, Binds and others, who confine their wanderings to Bengal Proper.

I think it is of great importance that the authorities in the Punjab and the North-West Provinces should not permit parties, such as the Kokanese (so called) and the band with which we now have to deal, to pass beyond their borders. Such people are a much more serious evil amongst the Bengalees, who are physically unfit to cope with them, than they are amongst the more robust and manly population of the Northern and North-Western parts of India.

I have presumed that the report I have been called on to submit was intended more to prove the identity of this band with those of which we have lately heard in Chittagong, Sylhet and Assam; to say more would be merely to repeat what has already been submitted to you in several reports from Chittagong, Sylhet, and specially from Assam.

P. S.—I should not have thought it necessary, even if I had the means of doing it, to attempt to enter into particulars as to the time which these people say was occupied between their leaving Cashmere and their arrival in the Provinces of Bengal. Their wanderings from January 1871 to November 1872 pretty well account for the time intermediate between those dates.

Bengal Progs., December 1872, No. 306.

No. 6474, dated Calcutta, the 27th November 1872.

From—A. MACKENZIE, Esq., Offg. Secretary to the Government of Bengal, Judicial Department.

To—The Inspector General of Police.

IN reply to your letter No. 8406 of the 13th November, and other correspondence concerning certain bands of Cashmerees at present in Lower Bengal, I am directed to request that you will have both the gangs removed from Bogra and Caragola, respectively, to Bhaugulpore, to be there kept under surveillance, pending the further orders of Government.

No. 6475.

COPY to Commissioner of Rajshahye for information.

No. 6476.

COPY forwarded to Commissioner of Bhaugulpore for information, with a request that he will, when the Cashmerees reach Bhaugulpore, have copies taken of all passes or rahdari perwanahs which may be in their possession, and forward them without delay to this Office.

Bengal Progs., December 1872, No. 308.

No. 8856, dated Fort William, the 28th November 1872.

From—Colonel J. R. PUGHE, Inspector General of Police, Lower Provinces.

To—The Offg. Secretary to the Govt. of Bengal, Judicial Department.

WITH reference to paragraph 5 of my letter No. 8406, dated the 13th instant, I have the honour to report, for the information of the Lieutenant-Governor, that I have received a communication from the Magistrate of Chittagong informing me that the Cashmerees in question entered that district from Tipperah, and that after camping at Chittagong for a few days they moved Southwards, some of them taking the steamer to Akyab.

2. In February last this band was again heard of at Ramoo, near Cox's Bazaar, where nine of them were arrested on a charge of dacoity, and fined by the Sub-Divisional Magistrate at Cox's Bazaar in the sum of Rs. 250, which was at once paid into court. They were then passed on under a police escort to the Fenny River, the Northern boundary of Chittagong, at which place the gang divided, about 30 or 35 going to Noacolly, and the rest to Tipperah.

3. The stay made by this gang in Chittagong was on both occasions short. The Magistrate was ignorant as to their journeyings during the interval between the date of their leaving Chittagong and that of their re-appearance at Ramoo. From other sources, however, as before reported, it was ascertained that they had been to Burma.

4. The Magistrate of Chittagong remarks that these Cashmerees were chiefly a nuisance from their filthy habits and pilfering propensities; that the women used to obtain admittance into zenanas under pretence of conjuring, &c., when they would steal what they could lay their hands on; and that, further, the parties robbed, not wishing to have their women appear as witnesses in court, did not generally complain. It was under these circumstances found necessary to watch and control their movements.

No. 619, dated Fort William, the 15th February 1873.

From—H. W. WELLESLEY, Esq., Offg. Under Secretary to the Government of India, Home Department.

To—The Secretary to the Government of Bengal, Judicial Department.

I AM directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter No. 619, dated the 31st ultimo, on the subject of directing a band of Heratees, wandering about Bengal, to remove themselves from British India.

2. In reply, I am desired to state that His Excellency the Governor General in Council approves of the proposal that the Lieutenant-Governor should, under Section 3 of Act III. of 1864, order these foreigners to remove themselves from British India and that His Honor should prescribe the route by which they shall go.

3. With regard to the route to be specified, I am to observe that these men are said to have originally come from Lus Beyla, but directly from Kashmir, "where they had been some time". It would be inexpedient to send them to Lus Beyla unless they wish to go there.

4. Enquiry should be made, in the first instance, whether the men wish to go to Lus Beyla, or to Kashmir, whence they came. In the former case they should be sent by rail to Bombay, and thence by steamer to Kurrachee, and in the latter case they should proceed *viâ* the North-Western Provinces to the Punjab.

5. As soon as the route is decided after due enquiry, notice should be given to the Local Governments through whose territories the men will have to pass.

No. 3116, dated Simla, the 7th October 1873.

From—T. J. CHICHELE PLOWDEN, Esq., Offg. Under Secretary to the Government of India, Home Department.

To—The Chief Secretary to the Government of Bombay.

IN continuation of the endorsement from this Office No. 2940, dated the 12th ultimo, I am directed to forward the accompanying copy of a telegram* from the Commissioner in Sind, and letter† from the Government of Bengal, regarding the band of Heratee vagrants sent round from Calcutta to Sind, and to observe that as the Government of India do not hold the case to be of sufficient importance to warrant any special political measures, it is transferred for disposal to the Government of Bombay.

* Dated 13th instant.

† No. 4230, dated 15th September, and enclosures.

2. I am to remark that Section 4 of Act III. of 1864 authorizes detention of foreign vagrants, who may also be dealt with under Chapter XXXVIII. of the Criminal Procedure Code. If it shall appear that further and more stringent steps are needed to put an end to what may be a dangerous nuisance, His Excellency the Governor in Council will no doubt communicate his views to the Government of India.

No. 743, dated Bombay Castle, the 11th February 1874.

From—J. NUGENT, Esq., Acting Under Secretary to the Government of Bombay, Judicial Department.

To—The Secretary to the Government of India, Home Dept.

I AM directed to acknowledge the receipt of Mr. Officiating Under Secretary Plowden's letter No. 3116 of the 7th October last, and

accompaniments, and in reply to state that His Excellency the Governor in Council is of opinion that the present provisions of the law are not adequate to prevent the ingress to British India of bands of Heratee vagrants,--a most objectionable class of vagrants,—and that there seems to be no reason why foreign Asiatic vagrants should not be specially dealt with by legislation, and their incarceration, deportation, and punishment on return to British India provided for in the same manner as has been done for European vagrants.

2. I am further to add that the exaction of hard labour from these vagrants when in confinement should, in the opinion of this Government, also be provided for in the proposed law as has been recommended in the case of European vagrants.

No. 905, dated Fort William, the 23rd March 1874.

From—A. C. LYALL, Esq., Secretary to the Govt. of India, Home Department.

To—The Secretary to the Govt of Bombay, Judicial Dept.

I AM directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter No. 743, dated the 11th February, representing that, in the opinion of your Government, the present provisions of the law are not adequate to prevent the ingress to British India of bands of Heratee vagrants, and that there seems to be no reason why foreign Asiatic vagabonds should not be specially dealt with by legislation.

2. His Excellency the Governor General in Council desires me to reply that the necessity for a law of this kind against a particular class requires to be clearly established by proof that the peculiar needs and circumstances which require the law counterbalance the general objections which exist against special additional legislation of this nature wherever it can be avoided. The Government of India are not at present in possession of information sufficient to show exactly in what manner the existing provisions of the law, especially those which empower security for good behaviour to be required from persons of suspicious character, have been ascertained by experiment to be inadequate, or to settle precisely where the defects exist, and by what additional measures and powers (over and above those already in the hands of the executive) these defects can best be remedied. The procedure suggested by your letter on the analogy of the Act for European vagrants would probably require some considerable modifications to suit the case of Heratee vagabonds. I am therefore to request that if, after full consideration of the exigencies of the case, and of the present state of the law applicable to it, His Excellency the Governor in Council considers that a special Act is altogether necessary, the proposal for legislation may be submitted with full details of the objects and reasons, and of the form which should be given to the enactment.

No. 1114, dated Fort St. George, the 8th May 1875.

From—The Honourable D. F. CARMICHAEL, Offg. Chief Secretary to the Government of Madras.

To—The Secretary to the Govt. of India, Foreign Dept.

I AM directed to submit, for the information of His Excellency the Governor General in Council, the accompanying Proceedings* of this Government regarding certain gangs of Heratees who were escorted from Mysore through the Bellary District and delivered to the Hyderabad authorities.

* Dated 8th May 1875, No. 1112.

Extract from the Proceedings of the Government of Madras in the Judicial Department,—No. 1112, *dated Fort St. George, the* 8*th May* 1875.

READ the following letter :

No. 1983, dated Ootacamund, the 17th April 1875.

From—Lieutenant-Colonel C. S. HEARN, Inspector General of Police, Madras.

To—The Chief Secretary to the Government of Madras.

I HAVE the honour to forward, for the information of Government, a report from the Superintendent of Police, Bellary, regarding the escort of the Heratee gangs from Mysore through the district, and their delivery to the Hyderabad authorities. I propose to pass batta to the police officers composing the escort.

No. 131—239, dated Bellary, the 8th April 1875.

From—Captain R. G. BRIGGS, Superintendent of Police, Bellary.

To—The Deputy Inspector General of Police, Central Range.

As directed in endorsement No. 1642 of Assistant Inspector General of Police on G. O. No. 673 of 20th ultimo, I have the honour to report that the gang therein alluded to, under the leadership of Vyat Ali Khan, entered this district at Kodoor on the 9th March 1875. No list nor descriptive roll was handed over to us by the Mysore escort.

2. The Assistant Superintendent Mr. Goodrich happened to be close to the point at which the gang entered, and from the accounts which he received of a quarrel between two sections of the party he considered it advisable to separate them and to keep Vyat Ali Khan's gang a march ahead of the other which was under Asker Khan.

3. The two parties had had a fight near Kolar in the Mysore territory, and several of them had to be carried on account of the

wounds which they then received. The gang under Asker Khan expressed their dread of being assaulted again by the other unless they were kept apart.

4. The first party reached Anantapur on the 20th ultimo, where they were permitted to halt for two days to bury a child which died there.

5. The Assistant Superintendent found them most averse to take the route laid down ; in fact, they absolutely refused at first to go otherwise than by Ghooty, but after considerable demur they proceeded up by the Bellary Road.

6. Their route, as laid down by me, led outside Bellary, as it was ordered by Government that they should be marched directly North, and in any case it was advisable that they should not come in here.

7. In the early stages of their march through they travelled slowly on account of their wounded ; thus, with stoppages, they were eight days later in reaching the confines of the district than was originally intended.

8. They were with great difficulty prevented from extorting supplies from the villagers ; each gang was, however, closely guarded, and their supplies were brought to them and issued on payment.

9. Inspector Schmidt had the supervision of both gangs, Divisional Inspectors relieving each other with the second party. This duty was well performed.

10. Vyat Ali Khan, who is the leading spirit amongst them, did his best to give trouble ; without this person they would have been much more manageable ; he became their head about three years ago, supplanting Asker, who had till then been their chief.

11. At each stage they purchased thirty or forty fowls and a sheep, and it required the personal supervision of Inspectors to prevent their swindling the villagers.

12. Vyat Ali Khan's party, as well as the other, appeared to be quite familiar with the country ; in fact, they gave out that they had visited it all in twos and threes, and remarked that travelling in gangs was a mistake as it attracted attention.

13. At Koodair, notwithstanding all precautions, they wilfully set their cattle to trespass on the crops, for which the villagers very properly gave some of their numbers a hearty thrashing which had a most subduing effect on them.

14. They were made over, one on the 2nd and the other on the 4th, to the Nizam's escorts, who stated that they were ordered to take them to Ahmedabad. Asker Khan's gang, however, objecting, the officer in charge complied with their wish to be taken to Hyderabad (Deccan).

15. As soon as they were in the Hyderabad territory, they threatened the head of a village that they would *loot* it (this was at the

instigation of Vyat Ali Khan as usual), unless they presented them with a sheep and five Rupees, which the villagers thereupon paid to them.

16. Vyat Ali Khan's gang is believed to be told off into three parties already with a view to early return to the Madras Presidency; they all give out unhesitatingly that they mean to work back in a few months in twos and threes, and evidently calculate on shortly being set at large to go where they like.

17. I would respectfully suggest that should they return, as threatened, they be returned by rail at their own charge.

18. A large body of police has had to be in constant attendance on them in this district from the 9th March to the 4th April 1875; they would never agree to start till 9 o'clock, and gave incessent annoyance by letting their cattle stray, and by trying to stop at every village they came to.

19. I propose forwarding a bill for the expenses to which Inspector Schmidt and the escort have been put, in which opposite each individual the number of days he was absent from his station will be shown; and I would strongly recommend that batta, at the rate allowed to witnesses, may be granted to the officers composing the escort. The sub-division men were relieved at Ooravukonda; but they especially were put to great inconvenience owing to the late notice given by the Mysore authorities of the change of route—*vide* my letter No. 84—185, dated 13th March 1875—and had no time to make any preparations for the journey. Inspector Schmidt had to hire a bandy to carry his tent, without which he would have had no means whatever of shelter, and all the party had a great deal of exposure, and a most harassing duty to perform.

20. The escort,* though it may at first sight appear large, was not more than these turbulent, unruly persons required.

* From Sub-Division,—Two Inspectors, 4 Head Constables, 35 Constables. Relieved by main Division,—One Inspector, 5 Head Constables, 24 Constables.

Order thereon.

Ordered to be communicated to the Resident at Hyderabad, with the request that the Government of His Highness the Nizam may be requested to co-operate effectively with the British authorities in carrying out the instructions of the Supreme Government that these disorderly wandering bands shall be compelled to return to their own country, under police surveillance, by the nearest route, and not permitted to range the country.

2. The papers will be communicated to the Mysore authorities, and submitted to the Government of India for information.

(True Extract.)

D. F. CARMICHAEL,

Offg. Chief Secretary to the Govt. of Madras.

No. 3127, dated Bombay Castle, the 28th May 1875.

From—W. LEE WARNER, Esq., Acting Under Secretary to the Government of Bombay, Judicial Department.

To—The Offg. Secretary to the Govt. of India, Home Dept.

ADVERTING to my telegram of yesterday, I am now directed to forward to you, for the information of His Excellency the Governor General in Council, copies of the correspondence given in the margin. It will be observed that the first intimation which this Government received was conveyed in the letter dated 3rd May 1875, from the First Assistant Resident of Hyderabad, announcing that 300 Heratee vagrants would, in a few days, be sent under a military escort to Sholapur. It was stated that the band was to be deported in accordance with the orders of the Madras Government, but no written orders of deportation were received with the vagrants, nor has any communication on the subject been received from the Madras Government. The foreigners were spoken of as turbulent and troublesome, and from the Proceedings of the Madras Government enclosed in the letter from the First Assistant Resident, Hyderabad, as well as from the statements of the party now at Sholapur, these vagrants would appear to be only a portion of a larger gang, some of which are still wandering in the Deccan.

1. Letter from the First Assistant Resident, Hyderabad, No. 218, dated 3rd May 1875, with accompaniments.
2. Letter to the Adjutant General of the Army No. 5 P, dated 13th May 1875.
3. Letter to the Magistrate of Sholapur No. 6 P, dated 14th May 1875.
4. Ditto ditto No. 2862, dated 18th May 1875.
5. Government Resolution No. 2979, dated 24th May 1875.
6. Letter from the First Class Magistrate of Sholapur No. 1263, dated 23rd May 1875.
7. Government Resolution No. 3003, dated 25th May 1875.
8. Letter from the Commissioner of Police, Bombay, No. 2048, dated 26th May 1875, with accompaniments.
9. Government Resolution No. 3098, dated 27th May 1875.
10. Ditto ditto No. 3120, dated 28th May 1875.

2. The first step taken by this Government was to ascertain the nationalities of the gang, and to distinguish the foreigners from the residents of British India. These vagrants appear to be under the leadership of certain jemadars, and they give from time to time different accounts of their antecedents and nationalities, according as they suspect the intention of the authorities who question them. Their great object is to keep the band together. According to the latest and most reliable accounts the 209 vagrants received by the Magistrate consist of three distinct parties. One party has been already forwarded to Bombay, and will be despatched this day *viâ* Kurrachee to their own country. They consist of 85 persons, of whom one comes from Teheran, and will be sent to Bushire, the remaining 84, composed of two jemadars, 31 men, 23 women, and 28 children, call themselves Lus Beylaus, and will be sent to Kurrachee. It is more than probable that they are Khorasanees like those who, in February 1873, were deported *viâ* Bombay by the Government of Bengal.

3. Similar vagrants have been deported from time to time by this Government, but have usually found their way back, the provisions of law, as reported in Mr. Under Secretary Nugent's letter No. 743, dated the 11th February 1874, being inadequate, in the opinion of His Excellency the Governor in Council, to prevent the ingress or return to India of foreign Asiatic vagrants.

4. The second party now profess to be inhabitants of Cashmere, and consist, according to the details just received, of two jemadars, 28 men, 33 women, 48 children, making a total of 111. It is with a view to the early removal of this party from Sholapur that I was directed to telegraph to you yesterday. Owing to the recent disturbances in the Sooper Talook and other talooks of Poona, adjoining Sholapur, it is undesirable to embarrass the action of the Sholapur District Police by the necessity of guarding these vagrants; and their early deportation or removal from Sholapur is, in the opinion of this Government, most advisable.

5. The remainder consist of British subjects, of whom one is a lad of eighteen, who appears to have been kidnapped by a jemadar of the Cashmeree party from Allahabad some ten years ago. Three men, with four women and five children, all connected with each other, complete the Indian party. They are under the leadership of one Mahad Ali, who claims to be a native of Sialkot; and when further particulars have been obtained, a reference will be made to the authorities at Allahabad and in the Punjab regarding them.

6. In conclusion, I am to observe that His Excellency the Governor in Council will not at present offer any further observations on the general subject of the ingress of these foreign vagrants, but he hopes that arrangements may be made to relieve the Sholapur Police of the necessity of guarding the gang deported thither by the Madras Government at the earliest possible date, as the monsoon is fast approaching, and the services of the police may at any time be emergently required elsewhere.

No. 218, dated Hyderabad, the 3rd May 1875.

From—Major W. Tweedie, First Assistant Resident at Hyderabad.

To—The Secretary to the Government of Bombay.

Two gangs of Heratees, consisting of above 300 persons, who have made their way into Southern India, and who are evidently professional thieves, though ostensibly sellers of mock gems and pearls, have been, by order of the Madras Government, made over to His Highness the Nizam's authorities, with the view of being marched Northwards in the direction of their own country. They are accordingly being passed on through His Highness' territory *viâ* Sholapur, and will arrive on the frontier of the Sholapur District on or about the 15th instant.

2. In order to prevent these men from again dispersing and committing crime, either in British territory or in that of His Highness the Nizam, it is necessary that arrangements should be made for their being taken charge of and despatched under a suitable escort towards their own country. The Resident has therefore the honour to request that the necessary instructions may be issued to the British authorities concerned to take charge and dispose of the gangs in the manner determined on.

3. Copy of the correspondence which has been received from the Madras Government, as well as English translation of a communication* from His Highness the Nizam's Minister, and copy of a letter addressed to the Magistrate of Sholapur, relative to the deportation of these Heratees, are herewith forwarded for the information and orders of His Excellency in Council.

* No. 763, dated 2nd April 1875, with enclosures.
No. 1251, dated 1st May 1875.
No. 219, dated 3rd May 1875.

4. It is necessary to add that these people have shewn themselves unruly and troublesome, so much so, that it was found necessary by His Highness the Nizam's Government to detach two troops of cavalry from the reformed force to escort them *en route* to the frontier.

No. 763, dated Fort St. George, the 2nd April 1875.

From—The Honourable W. Hudleston, Chief Secretary to the Government of Madras.

To—The Resident at Hyderabad.

I am directed to forward the enclosed copy of the Proceedings of the Government dated the 2nd instant, No. 762, together with copies of the papers noted at foot, in explanation of the course which has been adopted in this Presidency in sending the Heratees alluded to in the direction of their own country, and in view to the same principle being carried out in His Highness the Nizam's territory:

Proceedings dated	2nd	February 1875,	Nos. 35 to 37.
Ditto	3rd	ditto	Nos. 53 to 54 A.
Ditto	6th	ditto	Nos. 70 & 71.
Ditto	8th	ditto	Nos. 71 A & 71 B.
Ditto	19th	ditto	Nos. 163 & 164.
Ditto	24th	ditto	Nos. 199 & 200.
Ditto	24th	ditto	Nos. 201 & 202.
Ditto	26th	ditto	Nos. 222 & 223.
Ditto	27th	ditto	Nos. 224 & 225.

Extract from the Proceedings of the Government of Madras in the Judicial Department,—No. 762, dated the 2nd April 1875.

READ the following:

No. 1617, dated the 27th March 1875.

From—The Inspector General of Police, Madras.

To—The Chief Secretary to the Government of Madras.

I HAVE the honour to submit, for the information of the Government, a further communication from the Superintendent of Police, Bellary, regarding the gangs of Heratees recently handed over by the Mysore authorities to be marched through Bellary to Hyderabad. The Hyderabad authorities appear to be unaware why these gangs are passed into their territory, or whither they should proceed.

2. It would seem desirable that joint action should be taken by the different Government and Native Rulers to prevent the incursions of these gangs into Southern India, or into any part of British territory, the lawless nature of their proceedings being now so fully exposed. I may mention that Colonel Younghusband, C. S. I., the Inspector General of Police in the Punjab, has recently written to the Superintendent of Police, Cuddapah, regarding the property found with the gang in that district, some of which he has reason to think may have been stolen in the Punjab. This favours the supposition that these gangs proceed from the countries beyond the North-Western frontier of British India.

No. 94—197, dated the 19th March 1875.

From—The Superintendent of Police, Bellary.

To—The Inspector General of Police.

I RECEIVED yesterday from the District Magistrate of Bellary the enclosed copy of letter No. 4225 of 13th instant from the First Assistant Resident, Hyderabad (Deccan), which I have the honour to forward for your information, as it appears to me that His Highness the Nizam's Government are unware of the circumstances under which the Heratees alluded to (those referred to in G. O. No. 270, dated 6th February 1875), are being deported from British territory, and it is evidently mostly desirable that no misunderstanding should exist which would put it in the power of the Sadr Talookdar of Goolburga, or other officer, to misunderstand the direction in which the Government wish the gang referred to despatched.

This information appears to me to be applied for in the 2nd paragraph of the First Assistant Resident's letter, and as I hope that the gang will reach the frontier of His Highness the Nizam's territory by the end of this month, it seems desirable that the order of Government should at once be communicated to the authorities at Hyderabad.

The tax on the police in regarding these turbulent self-willed Heratees is very great, and the escort is necessarily furnished at the expense of localities from which the party of police has been drawn.

Under these circumstances I have ventured to communicate this correspondence to avoid the delay which might otherwise ensue.

No. 4225, dated Hyderabad, the 13th March 1875.

From—Major W. Tweedie, First Assistant Resident at Hyderabad.

To—The Magistrate of Bellary.

With reference to your letter No. 93, dated 20th ultimo, requesting that arrangements might be made by His Highness the Nizam's Government for receiving charge and passing on through His Highness' territory a wandering tribe of Heratees, who are to be sent off to the frontier to the North, I am to inform you that the Sadr Talookdar of Goolburga has been directed by His Highness' Government to detail a sufficient police detachment under an intelligent officer to receive charge of the party at Sirguppah and escort them through His Highness' territory to the British frontier.

2. As your letter and enclosure under reply, however, contain no information as to the destination of the men referred to, or the particular British authority to whom they should be made over by His Highness' police, you are requested to be good enough to cause this information to be supplied to the latter on the Heratees being handed over to them at Sirguppah by the Bellary Police, giving the necessary notice to the British authority on the frontier, as well as to this Office, with a view to such further action being taken in the matter as may be deemed requisite.

Dated the 17th March 1875.

Endorsed by the Magistrate of Bellary.

Forwarded to the District Superintendent of Police, with an intimation that the Resident at Hyderabad has been informed that the Nizam's Government must issue orders as to the further march of the Heratees.

Order thereon.

Ordered, that copy of the correspondence relative to these Heratees be at once forwarded to the Resident at Hyderabad, in explanation of the course which has been adopted, and in view to the same principle of sending these bands back whence they came, being carried out in His Highness the Nizam's territory.

(True Extract.)

W. HUDLESTON,

Chief Secretary to the Govt. of Madras.

Progs. No. 35.

Extract from the Proceedings of the Government of Madras in the Judicial Department,—No. 226, *dated the 2nd February* 1875.

READ the following:

Telegram No. 15, dated Trivellum, the 1st February 1875.

From—W. S. WHITESIDE, Esq., Magistrate of North Arcot.

To—The Acting Chief Secretary to the Govt. of Madras.

ANOTHER large gang of Heratees, 150 in number, have entered this district from Mysore; now at Palmanair; are violent, unruly, and very troublesome. Large party of police required to accompany and watch them. Say they deal in false gems, and are going to Nagore. Got no passports. I solicit sanction to return them to Mysore under Act III. of 1864.

Progs. No. 36.

ORDER THEREON.

THE gang of Heratees referred to in the above telegram having entered the District of North Arcot from Mysore, the Governor in Council resolves, under Section 3 of Act III. of 1864, to direct that it be marched to the frontier of Mysore under the custody of a police force able to control it, and be there handed over to the Mysore authorities.

2. The Magistrate of North Arcot will place himself in communication with the Superintendent of the Division of the Mysore territory bordering on that district in order to arrangements being made by that officer for taking charge of the gang.

3. Copy of these proceedings will be forwarded to the Chief Commissioner of Mysore with the suggestion that the Heratees may be deported thence, and sent to the direction of their own country.

(True Extract.)

D. F. CARMICHAEL,

Acting Chief Secretary to the Govt. of Madras.

Progs. No. 37.

No. 227, dated Fort St. George, the 2nd February 1875.

From—The Honourable D. F. CARMICHAEL, Acting Chief Secretary to the Government of Madras.

To—The Chief Commissioner of Mysore.

I AM directed to enclose copy of the Proceedings of this Government noted marginally, and to suggest that the Heratees therein referred to may be deported from the Mysore territory and sent in the direction of their own country.

Dated 2nd February 1875, No. 226.

R

Progs. No. 53.

Extract from the Proceedings of the Government of Madras in the Judicial Department,—No. 238, *dated the* 3rd *February* 1875.

READ the following papers :

No. 6, dated Trivellum, the 2nd February 1875.

From—W. S. WHITESIDE, Esq., Collector and Magistrate of North Arcot.

To—The Acting Chief Secretary to the Government of Madras.

IN acknowledging the receipt of your telegram of this day's date, I have the honour to inform you that immediately on receiving the official intimation of the arrival of the gang of Heratees at Palmanair and of their disorderly conduct there, I sent of by express orders to the Talook Magistrate of Palmanair to detain the gang at that station until orders were received from Government upon the reference I was about to make; and I at the same time requested the Superintendent of Police to take the necessary steps to have the people carefully watched, pending the issue of the orders of Government.

2. The gang is still at Palmanair, and, if turned back into the Mysore territory, will only have a short distance to march before they quit the limits of this Presidency.

3. I have to-day heard that, when travelling through the Mysore territory, this gang gave a great deal of trouble to the villagers and local officials, and I think it is to be regretted that no intimation was given to me by the Magistracy there of the march towards my district of so large and troublesome a party of vagrants.

Progs. No. 54.

ORDER THEREON.

THIS letter will be communicated to the Chief Commissioner, Mysore, in continuation of No. 227 of yesterday. The Collector will be furnished with copy.

(True Extract.)

D. F. CARMICHAEL,

Acting Chief Secretary to the Govt. of Madras.

Progs. No. 54 A.

No. 238 A, dated Fort St. George, the 3rd February 1875.

From—The Honourable D. F. CARMICHAEL, Acting Chief Secretary to the Government of Madras.

To—The Chief Commissioner of Mysore.

IN continuation of my No. 227 of yesterday, I am desired to enclose copy of another communication from the Collector of North Arcot. His Excellency in Council learns from a demi-official letter from the

Collector that the Deputy Commissioner, Bangalore, had those men escorted to the North Arcot frontier by a party of Silladar Horse.

2. As the standing orders of the Government of India require that such gangs should be returned to their own country, the Governor in Council requests that you will receive these men at your frontier, and cause them to be passed on to the North.

3. I am, by desire of His Excellency in Council, telegraphing to you to oblige the Madras Government by attending to any requisition for a party of Silladar Horse that may be made to you by the Collector, who has information which leads him to believe that the Heratees must be controlled by force.

Progs. No. 70.

Extract from the Proceedings of the Government of Madras in the Judicial Department,—No. 270, *dated the* 6*th February* 1875.

READ the following :

No. 7963—39, dated Mysore, the 4th February 1875.

From—H. W. WELLESLEY, Esq., Secretary to the Chief Commissioner of Mysore.

To—The Acting Chief Secretary to the Govt. of Madras.

I AM directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letters noted on the margin, and to state, for the information of His Excellency the Governor in Council, that due arrangements are being made for receiving and forwarding on to the frontier to the North the gang of Heratees referred to. A copy of the Chief Commissioner's Proceedings of this date is herewith appended.

No. 227, dated 2nd February 1875.
No. 238, do. 3rd do. do.

Extract from the Proceedings to the Chief Commissioner of Mysore,— No. 7966—133 *J, dated the* 4*th February* 1875.

READ letters from the Madras Government No. 227, dated 2nd February 1875, and No. 238, dated 3rd idem.

ORDER THEREON.

ORDERED that a copy of the foregoing letters be forwarded to the Military Assistant, the Judicial Commissioner, the Commissioner of Nandydroog, and the Deputy Commissioners of Kolar and Tumkur.

The total number of Heratees is not mentioned, but it must be over 200.

2. The Military Assistant will provide an escort of 50 Silladars, and the Judicial Commissioner is requested to cause the police to be on the alert.

The gang will be forwarded to the frontier by the Bellary road, and there handed over to the Madras authorities; due intimation being given to the Magistrate of Bellary by the Deputy Commissioner of Chitaldroog.

The Deputy Commissioner of Kolar is requested to explain through the Commissioner of Nandydroog why he sent the gang across the frontier into the North Arcot District without giving notice to the Madras authorities, and to report by what route it entered the Mysore territory.

Copy of these Proceedings will be communicated to the Madras Government and the Magistrate of North Arcot.

(True Extract.)

H. W. WELLESLEY,

Secretary to the Chief Commissioner of Mysore.

Progs. No. 71.

ORDER THEREON.

COPY furnished to the Magistrates of North Arcot and Bellary, and to the Inspector General of Police.

2. The Magistrate of Bellary will arrange to send the gang out of the district by the North.

(True Extract.)

D. F. CARMICHAEL,

Acting Chief Secretary to the Govt. of Madras.

Progs. No. 71 A.

Extract from the Proceedings of the Government of Madras in the Judicial Department,—No. 271, *dated Fort St. George, the* 8*th February* 1875.

READ the following letter:

No. 7, dated Trivellum, the 4th February 1875.

From—W. S. WHITESIDE, Esq., District Magistrate of North Arcot.

To—The Acting Chief Secretary to the Govt. of Madras.

IN acknowledging your telegram of yesterday, I have the honour to inform you that at present I am of opinion that it will not be necessary to have recourse to the assistance of a military force to escort the gang of Heratees to the Mysore frontier, and trust that a strong party of police will effect this object. I have, however, written to the Superintendent of Police enquiring his opinion with reference to the telegram in question, and shall keep the Government duly informed of the further measures that may be taken in this matter.

2. I have this morning received from the Acting Head Assistant Magistrate in charge of the Sub-Division of this District copy of a letter* addressed to him by the Deputy Commissioner of the Bangalore District, stating that a body of Kandaharees or Beluchis, nearly 200 in number, left that place for Kolar on the 21st January on their way to Madras, and that in consequence of the frequent complaints preferred against them by the villagers of demands for supplies being enforced by threats, and in some instances of articles having been carried off by force, it has been found necessary to have them escorted by a party of the Silladar Horse to the frontier of the Mysore territory. These, I imagine, constitute the gang now under surveillance at Palmanair.

* Dated 29th January 1875.

3. I have addressed the Superintendent of the Kolar District in view to arrangements being made to take charge of the gang on the frontier of this district.

Progs. No. 71 B.

ORDER THEREON.

THE Magistrate will turn this second gang back also.

2. Copy of this further correspondence will be furnished to the Chief Commissioner, Mysore, with reference to letters Nos. 227 and 238, dated 2nd and 3rd February 1875, and his reply No. 7963—39, dated 4th idem.

(True Extract.)

D. F. CARMICHAEL,

Acting Chief Secretary to the Govt. of Madras.

Progs. No. 163.

Extract from the Proceedings of the Government of Madras in the Judicial Department,—No. 389, *dated Fort St. George, the* 19*th February* 1875.

READ the following letter:

No. 8413—43, dated Bangalore, the 17th February 1875.

From—H. W. WELLESLEY, Esq., Secretary to the Chief Commissioner of Mysore.

To—The Acting Chief Secretary to the Govt. of Madras.

IN forwarding for the information of His Excellency the Governor in Council the accompanying copy of the Officiating Chief Commissioner's Proceedings of this day's date, No. 8414—1808, regarding the deportation of the Heratees referred to, I am directed to state that, although Section 3 of Act III. of 1864 authorizes a Local Government to order any foreigner to remove himself from British India, it appears doubtful

whether the Act contemplated the deportation of turbulent gangs from the countries lying to the North of India, across the frontier of a small Native State surrounded by British territory on all sides. The Officiating Chief Commissioner views with dislike the presence of these gangs in the territory under his administration, and in the present case the route to their own country of the gang referred to did not, I am to observe, lie through Mysore territory. Mr. Gordon would suggest that in furture such gangs may be directed to remove themselves from British territory by some route other than through the Mysore Province, unless it lies in the direct road.

2. I am to add that orders have been passed on the part of this Administration directing that simlar gangs, who conduct themselves lawlessly, shall be conducted to the Northern frontier of the Province, and then handed over to Her Majesty's authorities.

Extract from the Proceedings of the Chief Commissioner of Mysore,— *No.* 8414—1808, *dated the* 17*th February* 1875.

READ the following letter:

No. 2300—1368, dated Kolar, the 16th February 1875.

From—B. KRISHIENGAR, Esq., Deputy Commissioner, Kolar District.

To—The Secretary to the Chief Commissioner of Mysore.

ADVERTING to the third paragraph of the Chief Commissioner's Proceedings No. 7966—133, dated 4th February 1875, I have the honour to state that the gang of Heratees therein referred to arrived here this day in charge of the sowars orderd out by the Military Assistant and the police guard deputed under the orders of the Judicial Commissioner.

2. The Heratees declare now that the nearest route to their country by which they came to Mysore is by Cuddapah, as can be observed from the enclosed copy of passport, dated 5th October 1874, granted by the Deputy Magistrate of Kurnool, and not by Bellary, and beg that they may be permitted to return to their country by the same route, and that some arrangement may be made for their subsistence, as they are compelled to travel under restraint without being allowed to go into the villages for selling the articles of merchandize they possess, and thereby gaining the means of livelihood.

3. If the route proposed by the Heratees is approved of, they will be despatched *viâ* Srenivaspur to Muddenpully to the Cuddapah District, communicating to the Magistrate of that District the date of their arrival on his frontier.

4. I solicit early instructions on the matter, as they obstinately refuse to move in the Bellary direction.

PASSPORT.

Wahid Ali Khan and party (fifty-one) of Cashmere arrived here on the evening of 4th October 1874, and leave to-morrow for Madras *viâ* Cuddapah. The said Khan showed many licenses granted by the Bengal and Bombay authorities to carry arms and sell artificial jewels. The party have no arms for tne present. The said Khan having asked for a general passport, he is personally informed that so long as he and his party behave well, there is no fear of their being molested on their journey to Kurnool.

Kurnool; The 5th October 1874.

K. SUBBA RAO.
Additional Deputy Magistrate of Kurnool.

Order thereon.

Under the circumstances stated in the foregoing letter, the Officiating Chief Commissioner directs that the Heratees referred to may be sent to Cuddapah, instead of Bellary, by the route proposed by the Deputy Commissioner, who should at once place himself in communication with the Magistrate of Cuddapah. The gang should not be sent across the frontier until the Magistrate is prepared to receive the men, and till then the escort of Silladars should accompany them.

2. The Heratees must make their own arrangements for their subsistence, and may be allowed to carry on any lawful trade as long as they conduct themselves in an orderly manner and do no harm to the country people.

(True Extract.)

H. W. WELLESLEY.
Secretary to the Chief Commissioner of Mysore.

Progs. No. 164.

Order thereon.

The gang was turned back through the Mysore territory because it was distinctly stated that it had come from that quarter.

2. The Chief Commissioner will be informed that the Governor in Council regrets that, instead of following his original intention of forwarding the gang to the British frontier near Bellary, where there is a large military force, he has turned them aside to the Cuddapah frontier.

Proceedings dated 8th December 1868.

3. The conduct of the Native Deputy Collector, Kurnool, in supplying the head of the gang with a paper in the nature of a "passport or rahdari perwannah", is directly opposed to the express order of the Government of India. The Magistrate of Kurnool should have turned them back into the Hyderabad country, from which they must have come, communicating at the same time with the Resident.

4. Copy of these proceedings will be furnished to the Chief Commissioner, Mysore. All Magistrates will also receive a copy for information and guidance with reference to paragraph 3.

(True Extract.)

D. F. CARMICHAEL,

Acting Chief Secretary to the Govt. of Madras.

Progs. No. 199.

Extract from the Proceedings of the Government of Madras in the Judicial Department,—No. 437, *dated Fort St. George, the* 24*th February* 1875.

READ the following letter:

No. 11, dated Vellore, the 17th February 1875.

From—W. S. WHITESIDE, Esq., District Magistrate of North Arcot.

To—The Acting Chief Secretary to the Govt. of Madras.

I HAVE the honour to report, in continuation of my letter No. 6, dated 6th instant, that the band of Heratees therein referred to refused to be detained at Palmanair, and pushed on to Gudiattum, announcing their intention of coming on to Vellore. Their behaviour was most violent and daring. They had with them a large number of horses and ponies, which they regularly turned loose to graze in the fields, and if the unfortunate owners of the crops attempted to drive off the animals, he was at once assaulted by the owners. At each halt, and in every village they passed through, the gang broke up into parties and visited every house. The men stood outside twirling long sticks and keeping off the villagers, while their females forced their way into the houses and annoyed the inmates in all kinds of ways, always with an eye to plunder. In one instance that has been reported, they deliberately broke the lock and entered a house, the owners of which were absent.

2. The police guard that was at first sent to look after and restrain them was wholly powerless, so unruly was the gang; and a large party of police was therefore telegraphed for from Salem, and every available constable in this district was hunted up and sent on to Gudiattum. Captain Cox met me at Vellore, and as I was most anxious to prevent the gang coming on to Vellore, where the Mohurrum was just commencing, we went out and met the gang at Gudiattum on the 7th instant.

3. The leaders were at first inclined to be noisy and turbulent, but were soon convinced that they had no option but to submit and turn back. They of course raised many objections to setting off at once, and two of them were, I thought, deserving of some consideration.

One of their women had died that morning, and they were anxious to bury her decently and erect a tomb over the grave, and another woman was in labour. I also learned that five of their party had gone down to Madras, it was said, to get a fresh supply of false pearls, and were believed to be in custody. I therefore allowed them to halt at Gudiattum until the morning of the 9th instant, and during that time their camp was surrounded by a cordon of sentries, and the members of the gang prevented from wandering about from village to village as they wished.

4. I communicated with Colonel Drever, who found the five men I wanted and sent them up very promptly from Madras; and I sent orders for the supplies required by the gang to be in readiness for them at each halting place, and thus we were able to restrain them from again committing the acts of violence and depredation that had marked their entrance into the district and march to Gudiattum.

5. Captain Cox accompanied the gang on their return march to the frontier, and had but little trouble with them when they were once off, except at one place, where some of the gang showed signs of unruliness, but the arrest of the most violent man of the party, and his detention in custody until the next march commenced, quieted them effectually.

6. On arrival at Palmanair Captain Cox was astonished to discover the panic that they had succeeded in establishing when they first halted there; and so many complaints were made against them that he decided on searching the whole gang, which he did, without previous notice, at a suitable open spot on the march from Palmanair. Each one of the gang was found to be possessed of a number of sovereigns, goldmohurs and rupees, and ornaments composed of strings of gold coins, and they also had a good deal of silver jewellery, but nothing of such sort as warranted his detaining the gang for enquiry.

7. The march was continued, and on the 12th instant the gang was handed over to an escort of 50 Silladar Horse, which, in accordance with my request, had been sent to await their arrival at Putticonda—the last halting place after leaving Palmanair—and they were at once conducted out of the district.

8. During the time we thus had the gang in charge we discovered that it was composed of four distinct parties, one of them being that respecting which I addressed to Government my letter No. 7, dated 4th instant, and they are intimately connected with, and have perfect knowledge of, the movements of the other gangs that are now in this Presidency, although the seizures had only occurred a few days before they were perfectly aware of the recent arrest of the gangs of Heratees in the Cuddapah District and Madras. They profess to come from a place called Cashmere in Beluchistan, but this story is extremely doubtful. There is strong reason to believe that their real *habitat* is in the Nizam's territory. When I first informed them that they were to go back, they were very urgent to be allowed to break up the party, the

women and children going back to Hyderabad, and the men continuing their march to Nagore, and on their return journey they frequently said—" Once over the Kistna, and we are at home".

9. I think it is now quite clear that the trade in mock gems and pearls (the stock-in-trade of which they admitted they purchase wholesale in Madras) is merely the ostensible pretext they put forward, enabling them to visit and force an entrance into villagers' houses, and there steal everything they can lay their hands on. They had with them large bunches of keys, doubtless used to open boxes in the houses they thus enter, and this fact I regard as a strong indication of the unlawful nature of their occupation and character; and I now again beg very respectfully, but most strongly, to urge upon Government the advisability of preventing for the future raids of this kind into our usually quiet districts, by enforcing firmly the wholesome provisions of Sections 14 and 15 of Act III. of 1864.

Progs. No. 200.

ORDER THEREON.

It will suffice to call the attention of all District Magistrates to the Resolution of 1868 by the Government of India (G. O., Judicial, No. 1848, dated 8th December 1868) : On the appearance of gangs of foreigners of doubtful or lawless character in any district, the Magistrate will call upon them to retrace their steps, and if they refuse to do so, he will detain them, and report to Government for orders.

2. The sections of Act III. of 1864, which Mr. Whiteside recommends for general adoption, can only be applied when the Governor General in Council shall have issued a proclamation in respect of foreigners in general under Section 5.

(True Extract.)

D. F. CARMICHAEL,

Acting Chief Secretary to the Govt. of Madras.

Progs. No. 201.

Extract from the Proceedings of the Government of Madras in the Judicial Department,—No. 438, *dated the* 24*th February* 1875.

READ the following:

No. 922, dated Madras, the 22nd February 1875.

From—Lieutenant-Colonel C. S. HEARN, Inspector General of Police, Madras.

To—The Acting Chief Secretary to the Government of Madras.

WITH reference to G. O. No. 226, dated 2nd February 1875, Judicial Department, I have the honour to forward a copy of a letter

from the District Superintendent of Police, to the Magistrate of North Arcot, reporting the transfer of the gang of Heratees therein mentioned to the Mysore authorities across the frontier.

2. I take this opportunity to bring the subject of the so-called "Heratee" gang prominently to the notice of Government.

3. Within the last few weeks no less than three of these gangs have come under the hands of the police—one in the Madras Town, another in Cuddapah, a third in North Arcot. With the two former a large amount of coin, gold and jewellery (the latter broken up and evidently stolen property) was found. The North Arcot gang also possessed sovereigns, mohurs, rupees, and a quantity of gold and silver jewellery. These articles did not correspond with any on the police lists of the districts of this Presidency through which the gangs had passed; probably they had been stolen in other Provinces or territories. The members of the gang which unwarily encamped within Madras municipal limits were convicted and punished by fine under the special provisions of the Town Police Act (Section 17, Act VIII. of 1867). The men of the Cuddapah gang are under remand to be produced before the District Magistrate on a charge under Section 411, Penal Code, which will not probably stand. The North Arcot gang have been sent back to Mysore.

4. Gang No. 1 came down to Madras through the Krishna and Nellore Districts; gang No. 2 came to Cuddapah through Kurnool and Cumbum; gang No. 3 came across the Mysore frontier into North Arcot. These Heratee gangs do not commit robberies and dacoities on a large scale in this Presidency, probably because, being foreigners, they know that they would be at once detected; but the women of the gang are expert thieves, and after the departure of a gang from a town or village it is not unusual to hear of property being missed. Wherever they go they are a nuisance and a terror to the people upon whom they deliberately prey in various ways. The women dance before a house in no very decent fashion, and then thrust their mock stones (bits of coloured glass) and pearls into the hands of the female spectators, from whom they absolutely refuse to take them back, demanding an exorbitant price for an article worth about an anna. In this way they screw a good deal of money out of the villagers who are terrified into acquiescence by their violent manner. Another dodge is this—A Heratee goes to a bazaar to buy ghee, suddenly dips his hand into the pot, takes out some ghee in his palm, puts his tongue to it, declares it is bad, and puts it back into the pot, the whole contents of which are thereby polluted for Hindus. When the bazaarman complains of this, the Heratee offers to take the pot of ghee off his hands at a low figure. This sort of rough humour is of course not much relished by the victims who have to pay for it. The Heratees systematically trespass on the standing crops with their ponies, and violently resist any attempt to impound their animals. In fact they are a pest to the inhabitants wherever they go, and their reasons for making lengthy and prolonged tours in this Presidency probably are that they find it easy to live on the people, and

that, having committed serious crimes elsewhere, they seek to elude justice by travelling in distant parts. Many of their misdeeds in this Presidency doubtless escape notice, because the chief wish of the people is to get rid of them as quickly as possible. Consequently the sufferers forbear from complaint, because this involves the detection of the gang. If any of these Heratees are brought under the arm of the law in this Presidency, the evil caused by their presence is only intensified, for when members of the gang are imprisoned, the remainder quarter themselves in the vicinity of the jail until their friends are released. In Tinnevelly, some years ago, the Government felt obliged to pardon some Heratee women convicted of theft, in order to deport the gang which had become an intolerable nuisance.

G. O. No. 1490, dated 20th October 1865.
Do. No. 1563, do. 2nd November 1865.
Do. No. 1692, do. 27th November 1865.

5. I trust that I have sufficiently shewn the necessity of keeping these so-called "Heratee" gipsies out of the Madras Presidency, where, for the reasons given, they cannot be effectively controlled and prevented from harassing and plundering the people. The Government in their order No. 1407, dated 29th September 1865, instructed Magistrates to send back all such gangs at once, and to compel them to quit British territory. This was acted upon until the publication of letter No. 72, No. 4547, dated 12th November 1868, from the Secretary to Government of India, Home Department (G. O. No. 1848, dated 8th December 1868), since which time some Magistrates have continued to stop these gangs, while others have allowed them to pass on to adjacent districts. I submit that they ought always to be stopped at once and sent back across the frontier. I imagine that this can be done under Sections 3 and 4, Act III. of 1864 (without any extension of the provisions of the Act), since the "sufficient cause", alluded to in paragraph 4 of the Home Secretary's letter, may be held always to exist in the case of Heratee wandering gangs. But it is essential that there should be authority for prompt action in stopping these gangs at once whenever they enter the limits of the Madras Presidency.

No. 127, dated Chittoor, the 15th February 1875.

From—Captain H. W. H. Cox, Supdt. of Police, North Arcot.

To—The Magistrate of North Arcot.

I HAVE the honour to inform you that, in accordance with the orders of Government, the Heratees have been marched to the Mysore frontier, and there handed over to an escort of Silladar Horse.

2. As arranged by you at Gudiattum on the 7th instant, the Heratees were allowed to remain at that place on the 8th. On the 9th I moved them to Synigunta, and on to Palmanair the following day. I allowed them to halt at Palmanair on the 11th, sending them on to Patticondah on the 12th, and across the frontier on the 13th.

3. I found at Gudiattum that, even with a strong party of police, it was impossible to keep them in order without curtailing their liberty, and accordingly shut them up in their camp inside a cordon of sentries, strictly prohibiting all intercourse between them and the villagers.

4. They remained thus in *quasi*-custody until they left the district. The arrangements made by you through the Tahsildars of Gudiattum and Palmanair for the supply of the necessaries of life to them on payment enabled me, without inconvenience, to place them under this restraint, which I found to be absolutely necessary.

5. Except at Byappagaripully, half way between Synigunta and Palmanair, they gave no trouble worth mentioning, and on this occasion they were promptly quieted by my placing in close custody one of their number, the most noisy of the lot.

6. In consequence of complaints made to me at Palmanair on the 10th of thefts committed by members of the gang on 30th and 31st ultimo, I considered it advisable to search them.

7. Owing to their practice of burying valuables, the search to be at all effectual had to be made while they were actually on the march, so on Friday morning I started them off and let them move until they had reached a convenient open place, and then stopped them and thoroughly searched their persons and their baggage.

8. I found a considerable amount of gold and silver money (sovereigns, mohurs and rupees), a good deal of silver jewellery, and some gold jewellery, the latter consisting almost entirely of necklaces made of gold coins.

9. Large quantities of their stock-in-trade: pieces of coloured glass cut to imitate gems, strings of false pearls in cardboard boxes, labelled "perles lustres", glass beads, and some pieces of cornelian, were also found, with here and there a pot of pomatum or a bit of soap. The latter article is evidently used by these people only very occasionally, for they have a most unpleasant smell.

10. No property was found of the description of that said to have been stolen near Palmanair, and, with the exception of one article, I had no suspicion regarding any of the jewellery found. The exception was a gold bangle found upon the person of an old woman. It was bent up, but not disfigured (it could be straightened out with the finger), and I did not consider it necessary or advisable to seize this or any of the other property, as such a step would have necessitated the detention of the whole gang.

11. The arms of the gang consisted of a double-barrelled gun, a single barrelled rifle, an ancient matchlock and four daggers.

12. I must not omit to mention that bunches of keys were found in some of the bundles. These they were taking home intending to make locks for them on their arrival there. I had great doubts as to the advisability of permitting them to retain possession of these keys, but eventually decided not to seize them.

13. I note the strength of the gang in the margin. It is made up of four distinct gangs, or portions of four gangs. One of these gangs is that which passed through the district in November last, regarding which you addressed Government.

52 men.
45 women.
72 children.

14. In unguarded moments they spoke of the men in custody in Madras and at Cuddapah as their people, and seemed to be thoroughly informed of all that had befallen them.

15. They call themselves natives of a place called Cashmere in Beluchistan, but I think they are a very mixed lot; some are certainly natives of India, and, judging from their pronunciation of Hindustani, I should say that many of them have either never left the Deccan, or have resided there for many years. They look upon Hyderabad as their country: "Once across the Kistna, and we are at home", they frequently said.

16. Until I visited Palmanair I had not the faintest conception of the panic caused by the visit of this gang at the end of the last month. On their arrival they let their ponies loose in the fields, resisting by threats or violence all attempts to drive away or impound them.

17. Parties of ten or twelve went out to forage and trade, the women forcing their way into houses, while the men armed with long bamboos stood outside.

18. Altogether four cases of thefts from houses were reported to me on the 10th as having been committed by members of the gang on 30th and 31st ultimo, and in one of these cases entry was effected by breaking the lock of a door. The inhabitants were afraid to resist them, and the police were not sufficiently numerous to follow and keep in check the various parties into which the gang broke itself up.

19. I do hope that you will strongly and earnestly represent to Government the necessity of enforcing the provisions of Sections 14 and 15 of the Foreigners Act as regards these people. Their presence, even in small parties, is a nuisance; in large gangs they are manageable only when placed under close restraint; and even granting their ostensible trade to be a legitimate one, it supplies no want.

20. At Palmanair a small Mussulman boy, aged about ten, was turned out of their camp by these Heratees. He states that he is an orphan; that he joined the gang voluntarily at Vellore last November; and that he has been turned out because he has not proved a useful recruit, and would not learn to steal. Enquiries are being made about him; in the meantime the Reserve Inspector is taking care of the lad.

Progs. No. 202.

ORDER THEREON.

COPY of this letter will be communicated to all Magistrates of Districts, who have already been informed, very recently, that such

gangs are to be required to turn back, and that on their refusing or delaying to do so, they are to be detained, pending the result of an application to Government to put Section 4 of the Act formally in force against them.

(True Extract.)

D. F. CARMICHAEL,

Acting Chief Secretary to the Govt. of Madras.

Progs. No. 222.

Extract from the Proceedings of the Government of Madras in the Judicial Department,—dated the 26th February 1875.

READ the following:

No. 8621—43, dated Bangalore, the 24th February 1875.

From—H. W. WELLESLEY, Esq., Secretary to the Chief Commissioner of Mysore.

To—The Acting Chief Secretary to the Government of Madras.

ADVERTING to paragraph 3 of the letter from the Magistrate of North Arcot to your address dated 2nd February 1875, No. 6, copy of which was enclosed in your letter No. 238 of the 3rd idem, I am directed to forward copy of a communication from the Commissioner of Nandydroog No. 17 J of the 19th instant, and its enclosures, from which it appears that the authorities of the Kolar District did not neglect the precaution of informing the police of North Arcot that the gang of Heratees was about to return from Mysore into Her Majesty's territory.

2. With reference to your letter to the Officiating Chief Commissioner of the 19th instant, No. 390, I am to state that, immediately on receipt of your telegram of the same date, the Officiating Chief Commissioner, who has throughout been desirous of acting in conformity with the wishes of His Excellency in Council, issued orders that the route originally proposed, when the wishes of the gang and their precise destination were unknown, viz., that *viâ* Bellary, should be adhered to, and this order is now being carried out. I am further to explain that, in the absence of any declared intention of His Excellency in Council as to the particular route which it was desirable that the gang should take, Mr. Gordon did not feel justified in refusing to allow them, hampered as they are with women and children, to proceed by the shortest route by which they had come, and by which they desired to return.

No. 17 J, dated Bangalore, the 19th February 1875.

From—J. L. Pearse, Esq., Commissioner, Nandydroog Division.

To—The Secretary to the Chief Commissioner of Mysore.

With reference to your No. 7966—133 of the 4th instant, I have the honour to submit, for the information of the Chief Commissioner, copy of letter No. 2248—888 of the 8th instant, and of its enclosures, from the Deputy Commissioner of Kolar, and to state that it is clear that the necessary intimation was given to the North Arcot Police, and I think, therefore, that the fact may, with advantage, be notified to the Madras Government.

No. 2248—888, dated Kolar, the 8th February 1875.

From—Mr. B. Krishnaiengar, Deputy Collector, Kolar District.

To—The Commissioner, Nandydroog Division.

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of the Chief Commissioner's Proceedings No. 7966—133 J of the 4th instant, requesting me to explain through you why I sent a gang of Heratees across the frontier into the North Arcot District without giving notice to the Madras authorities.

2. In reply, I beg to state that the gang arrived in this district on the 23rd ultimo from the Bangalore District. On arrival at head quarters the headmen intimated their intention to proceed in the direction of the North Arcot District, upon which Mr. Ramaiya Naidu, my Police Assistant Commissioner, directed that they must all leave in a gang as they left the Bangalore District, and that they will on no account be permitted to disperse in different directions. Upon their consenting to this arrangement Mr. Ramaiya Naidu lost no time in addressing the Superintendent of Police, North Arcot District, intimating that the Heratees will leave this on the 25th, and arrive at the frontier about the 29th ultimo. A copy of this letter No. 2153—1287 of the 24th January 1875 is herewith submitted for your information, from which it will be observed that all needful precautions were taken in this district, and no time was lost in advising the police of the North Arcot District of the movements of the gang.

No. 2153—1287, dated Kolar, the 24th January 1875.

From—Mr. J. Ramaiya Naidu, Assistant Commissioner of Police, Kolar District.

To—The Superintendent of Police, North Arcot.

I have the honour to intimate that some 150 Heratees arrived here yesterday, coming from the direction of Bangalore.

2. They will leave this to-morrow, and proceed by Moolbagal and Nangaly to Punganur, Nellore and Nagoor.

3. The gang consists of 150 men, women and children, and a like number of ponies, and the names of the leaders or jemadars under whom the gang is travelling are one Walud Ali Khan, one Koorban Ali Khan, and one Nazer Khan.

4. The gang will probably arrive at Nangaly on the 29th instant.

5. Two sowars and one duffadar and six peons are proceeding in charge of the gang, who, I request, may be relieved at Nangaly, the frontier of this district.

Progs. No. 223.

No. 461, dated Fort St. George, the 26th February 1875.

From—The Honourable D. F. Carmichael, Acting Chief Secretary to the Government of Madras.

To—The Chief Commissioner of Mysore.

In reply to your letter of 24th February instant, No. 8621—43, I am directed to convey to you the acknowledgments of His Excellency in Council for complying with his request to send back the Heratees to Bellary through Mysore territory.

2. As the instructions of the Government of India require all Magistrates of British Indian districts to march back all such gangs, it is suggested that the action of the Mysore authorities, in escorting these men into North Arcot, could not be otherwise than highly embarrassing.

Progs. No. 224.

Extract from the Proceedings of the Government of Madras in the Judicial Department,—No. 467, *dated the* 27*th February* 1875.

Read the following:

Extra No. 1, dated Proddatur, the 23rd February 1875.

From—W. D. Horsley, Esq., Magistrate of Cuddapah.

To—The Acting Chief Secretary to the Government of Madras.

A gang of foreigners—forty-one men, women and children—have been brought before me on a charge of possessing stolen property; I have discharged them. The question now is what is to be done with them. They are clearly connected with the gang lately arrested in Madras, but to what country they belong I cannot, for certain, say. They call themselves Pathans of Cashmere. They are generally called Heratees. They are inclined to give trouble, and I propose to keep them under police surveillance in Cuddapah until the Heratees, regarding whom the Government have lately been corresponding with the Mysore

Government, arrive from Mysore, when that and this gang may be escorted together by the police to Kurnool on their way North. They possess a license from the Magistrate of the Kistna District to carry arms to Madras.

2. I request that the orders of Government may be conveyed to me as soon as possible.

Progs. No. 225.

ORDER THEREON.

THE gang should be sent through British territory (as it came that way) across the Kistna as proposed; but the larger gang mentioned by the Magistrate has now been sent to Bellary, through the Mysore country, by the Chief Commissioner.

2. The Magistrate of Kistna will be desired to explain why he gave these people leave to carry arms.

(True Extract.)

D. F. CARMICHAEL,

Acting Chief Secretary to the Govt. of Madras.

Translation of a letter from His Highness the NIZAM'S MINISTER, *to the* RESIDENT *at Hyderabad,—No.* 1251, *dated the* 1*st May* 1875.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of to-day's date, No. 981, stating that you had requested to be informed of the route by which it was intended to despatch the gangs of Heratees, who are professional thieves, in order to make the requisite arrangements for their deportation towards their own country; that immediately on receipt of the above information you would favour me with letters addressed to the Bombay Government, as well as to the British officers concerned, regarding their deportation; and that, in the absence of the information referred to, it is impossible to arrange for their being taken charge of and deported towards their own country. Further that, in the event of its being decided to despatch the Heratees *viâ* Sholapur, you would make the necessary communication to the Magistrate of that place; or if it be thought better to send them by Aurungabad towards Khandeish, that also could be arranged; or if it be deemed preferable to send them *viâ* Hingoli, and on through the Assigned Districts of Berar, you would instruct the Inspector General of Police of Berar to receive charge of and pass them on, and that a detachment of the Hyderabad Contingent Cavalry could also be detailed from Hingoli to escort them to the borders of Khandeish. You at the same time wish to be informed of the probable date on which the Heratees may arrive at the frontier, whether in the direction of Sholapur, Aurungabad, or Hingoli, in order that, immediately on receipt of the above information, the necessary

arrangements may be made for their despatch towards their own country. You were informed by my letter No. 1243 of the 30th ultimo that I had ordered out two troops of His Highness' Reformed Force to restrain the Heratees who had arrived as far as Faruknagar on their way towards Hyderabad. You have expressed your satisfaction with this measure, and have further intimated your opinion that, if the same detachment were directed to accompany the Heratees up to the frontier of His Highness' territory, it would be highly advisable.

It is true that although my former communication had reference to marching the Heratees through the Bombay Presidency, it contained no distinct allusion to the route *viâ* Sholapur; but now that the gangs of Heratees have, one after the other, reached Faruknagar, *viâ* Maktal, and as the nearest border of His Highness' territory is that in the direction of Sholapur, the Officer Commanding the Detachment of Reformed Troops, which has marched to Faruknagar, has been directed to have the Heratees escorted to the border of Sholapur by regular marches. It appears, however, from reports received from His Highness' authorities that these Heratees do not travel further than six or eight miles a day. In this case they will most probably reach the frontier in the course of ten or twelve days. I would therefore beg the favour of the necessary intimation being given to the Magistrate of Sholapur, and a duplicate of the letter addressed to that officer forwarded to me for transmission at once to the Officer Commanding the Detachment above referred to.

(True Translation.)

F. FOWLER,

Extra Assistant Commissioner in the Judicial Dept.

No. 219, dated Hyderabad, the 3rd May 1875.

From—Major W. Tweedie, First Assistant Resident at Hyderabad.

To—The Magistrate of Sholapur.

Two gangs of Heratees, consisting of upwards of 300 professional robbers and other lawless persons, having been found wandering in British territory, were handed over, some short time ago, by the Madras authorities, to His Highness the Nizam's Police, for the purpose of being passed on through His Highness' territory *en route* to their own country beyond British India, and are accordingly now being escorted through His Highness' territory, and will arrive on the Sholapur frontier on or about the 15th instant.

2. The Resident will esteem it a favour if you will cause all necessary steps to be taken for the reception and further transmission of the Heratees in question on their being escorted by His Highness

Extract from the Proceedings of the Government of Bombay in the Judicial Department,—No. 2979, *dated Bombay Castle, the* 24*th May* 1875.

READ letter from the First Assistant Resident at Hyderabad No. 218, dated 3rd May 1875, stating that two gangs of Heratees, consisting of 300 persons, who have made their way into Southern India, and who are evidently professional thieves, have been, by order of the Madras Government, made over to His Highness the Nizam's authorities, with the view of being marched Northwards in the direction of their own country; that they are accordingly being passed on through His Highness' territory *viâ* Sholapur; and requesting that, in order to prevent these men from again dispersing and committing crime, the necessary instructions may be issued to the British authorities concerned to take charge and dispose of the gangs in the manner determined on.

Read letter from the Magistrate, First Class, in charge, Sholapur, No. 1099, dated 5th May 1875, forwarding a letter from the First Assistant Resident at Hyderabad, and requesting that Government will order a military escort for the two gangs referred to. He requests also instructions as to the route by which these gangs are to be conducted, and to whom they are to be given over for transportation beyond the limits of the Sholapur District.

Read Government letters Nos. 5 P and 6 P, dated, respectively, 13th and 14th May 1875, to the Adjutant General of the Army and the Acting District Magistrate of Sholapur, on the above subject.

Read letter from the Commissioner of Police, Bombay, No. 1894, dated 14th May 1875, on the same subject.

Read Government letter No. 2862, dated 17th May 1875, to the Acting District Magistrate of Sholapur, on the same subject.

Read letter from the Acting District Magistrate of Sholapur No. 1145, dated 11th May 1875, stating that he has made arrangements for the reception of the gangs, and forwarding them by the train to Poona, and thence to Bombay.

Read further letter from the Acting District Magistrate of Sholapur No. 1166, dated 13th May 1875, on the same subject.

Read further letter from the Acting District Magistrate of Sholapur No. 1202, dated 17th May 1875, on the same subject.

Read telegram from the District Magistrate of Sholapur, dated 23rd May 1875, reporting the arrival of the gangs at Tandulwarree, and giving particulars regarding them.

RESOLUTION.—On the 3rd of May the First Assistant Resident, Hyderabad, reported that a gang of 300 Heratees, who had been sent through Mysore, by order of the Madras Government, into the

territory of His Highness the Nizam, to be deported to their own country by way of the Bombay Presidency, would shortly reach Sholapur under a military escort. The gang was reported to be troublesome and turbulent. The Magistrate of North Arcot reported that a large portion of the gang professed to come from a place called Cashmere, in Beluchistan, but that their story was doubtful, there being strong reason to believe that they were residents of the Nizam's territory. No reliable information as to the nationalities of the so-called Heratees having been received, the District Magistrate of Sholapur was directed to receive them on arrival at Tandulwarree, and report their antecedents and nationalties. The gang arrived yesterday at Tandulwarree, and consists of only 214 persons, who appear to constitute four distinct parties.

2. The first party consists of two jemadars and 88 persons, viz., 28 men, 22 women, and 38 children, who are reported to have come from a country 100 miles North of Kurrachee. This would seem to be Lus Beyla; but on this point the Magistrate should report at further length, and give the names of the jemadars. The whole party should be forwarded at once by train under proper escort to Bombay, where the Acting Commissioner of Police should make arrangements for their detention, under the strict surveillance of the police, in the compound of the Oomerkhady Chowki and elsewhere. Mr. Edginton should make arrangements for their deportation to Kurrachee by the first suitable steamer leaving for that port. The Commissioner in Sind will be forewarned by telegraph of their despatch, and should make all arrangements for their disembarkation at Kurrachee and final deportation to their own country.

3. The second party consists of two jemadars and 112 persons, viz., 31 men, 36 women, and 45 children, who are reported to come from Cashmere. This party should be detained at Sholapur pending further information as to the country from which they have come. It is not clear whether this party is that to which the Magistrate of North Arcot referred in his letter No. 11, dated 17th February 1875, or whether these vagrants belong to the country North of the Punjab. In the latter case a reference must be made to the Government of India. In the former case this party must be sent to Bombay as soon as the first party has been disposed of. In the present state of affairs in the districts adjoining Sholapur, it is desirable to free the police of Sholapur from the duty of guarding these men as soon as possible, but the Police Commissioner at Bombay is unable to accommodate this party until the former party has been disposed of.

4. There appears to be with the gang one man described as from Allahabad. Full enquiry should be made as to his antecedents and connection with the gang. Meanwhile he should be dealt with under the provisions of Chapter 38, Act X. of 1872.

5. The fourth party consists of nine persons, *i. e.*, three men, three women, and three children, from Herat. They should be forwarded with

the first party to Bombay, where the Police Commissioner should detain them until receipt of the further orders of Government. The Magistrate of Sholapur should report by telegraph to the Police Commissioner when the first and fourth parties will arrive in Bombay, in order that arrangements for their reception may be made.

6. The tattoos should be sold, and orders will hereafter be given as to the disposal of the proceeds. But the property in them of each of the four parties should be ascertained, and the proceeds of the sale credited to that party to which they belong.

7. Further report about the ornaments said to have been taken by the Rissaldar will be awaited. Meantime the action of the Magistrate in taking charge of them is approved.

(True Extract.)

W. LEE WARNER,

Acting Under Secretary to the Govt. of Bombay.

No. 1263, dated Sholapur, the 23rd May 1875.

From—J. L. JOHNSTON, Esq., First Class Magistrate in Charge.

To—The Acting Under Secretary to the Government of Bombay, Judicial Department.

I HAVE the honour to forward copies of a letter dated this day from Lieutenant Alexander, Her Majesty's 19th Regiment, Native Infantry, Commanding Escort Party, Tandulwarree, and of a telegram sent to you to-day, and to request the favour of instructions as to the place to which I am to send on the gang.

2. In Lieutenant Alexander's letter eleven Mogalis seems to be written by mistake for eleven Moguls.

3. The country described as 100 miles North of Kurrachee cannot have been within British India.

4. As we can only judge by the appearance and statements of the men themselves, we may not perhaps be as accurate as the Madras authorities might have been if they had made enquiries when the men were arrested.

5. I have asked the Resident at Hyderabad by telegram whether the Rissaldar is not to restore the silver ornaments taken by him from a jemadar's wife.

6. I shall continue the cash payments made by the Nizam's authorities.

7. I may mention that the gangs are now in charge of a company from Her Majesty's 19th Native Infantry with 20 foot police and four mounted constables. I expect to bring the prisoners into Sholapur on the morning of the 25th, but I should be glad to receive orders as to

their destination beforehand, so that I may make the necessary arrangements with the railway authorities.

P. S.—I would further request the favour of instructions regarding the tattoos, arms and other property of the prisoners, whether everything is to be sent with them to Bombay, or any other place which may be appointed as their destination.

Dated the 23rd May 1875.

From—Lieutenant F. E. ALEXANDER, Her Majesty's 19th Regiment, Native Infantry.

To—The District Magistrate of Sholapur.

IN accordance with instructions received from you concerning the Heratee gang in your letter No. 1241 of 1875, I have the honour to state that the gang arrived yesterday, and that I received over charge of the men, women and children and belongings of the prisoners yesterday evening from Rissaldar Oomer Ali Khan, His Highness the Nizam's 2nd Cavalry. The sum total of the gang is as follows: 63 men, 61 women, 86 children, besides about 90 tattoos. The following *kit* was also handed over to me, for which I gave a receipt: six rifles, seven knives, fourteen razors, 23 koorarees, 36 koitas, ten pen-knives, and 68 staves. I proceeded to examine every man separately on the arrival of the gang, and the result of my investigation is as follows:

There are 46 Pathans, eleven Mogalis, one Sheikh, four Beluchis, one Mussulman. The prisoners can be said roughly to belong to four separate bands, each having its jemadar. The names of the jemadars, the number of men that came with them, and where they came from, I ascertained to be as follows:

(1) Askhur Khan with eighteen men, ten women and nineteen children came into Hindustan three years ago from the country he describes as being 100 miles North of Kurrachee.

(2) Murtub Khan with ten men, twelve women and nineteen children came into Hindustan about two years ago from the same country, travelling per Hyderabad, Sind and Ahmedabad.

(3) Koorun Ali came with fifteen men, nineteen women and 29 children from Cashmere three years ago.

(4) Wuhud Ali Khan with sixteen men, seventeen women and sixteen children from the same country four years ago.

(5) One man from Allahabad eight years ago.

(6) Three men, three women and three children from Herat a few months ago.

The Rissaldar was unable to give me any information, not having received any particulars when the Madras Police and guard of Europeans handed over the gang to his charge. I have ascertained, however, that a good many of the men were arrested for the simple reason that they were hand-and-glove with the other malefactors.

On receiving charge of the goods I was informed by the Rissaldar that he had certain silver ornaments belonging to one of the jemadars, but that he had orders to take them back with him; this seems curious, to say the least, as I don't see the object of his having brought them all the way from Hyderabad only to take them back. The prisoner states that the ornaments were detached from his wife *this side* of Hyderabad by the Rissaldar, and I would suggest that enquiry should be made on the subject, as the jemadar in question is a man of authority in the gang, and is very dissatisfied concerning these ornaments. The prisoners have hitherto received so much a head in cash from the Nizam's Government, and seem to prefer the cash to the kind. I of course cannot give them cash without orders, which I await.

Telegram from—J. L. Johnston, Esq., District Magistrate of Sholapur.

To—The Under Secretary to the Government of Bombay.

" Heratee gangs arrived Tandulwarree. Nizam's officer received no particulars from Madras guard. Gang members say four separate bands:

(1) Jemadar, eighteen men, ten women, nineteen children from country roughly described as 100 miles North of Kurrachee.

(2) Jemadar, ten men, twelve women, nineteen children from same country.

(3) Jemadar, fifteen men, nineteen women, 29 children from Cashmere.

(4) Jemadar, sixteen men, seventeen women, sixteen children from Cashmere.

One man from Allahabad, three men, three women, three children from Herat.

Nizam's Rissaldar took ornaments from jemadar's wife and refuses to restore. Telegraphed to Resident, Hyderabad. This causes delay. I go to-day to Tandulwarree.

What is to be done with 90 tattoos belonging to prisoners? Nearly all prisoners appear to be foreigners."

Extract from the Proceedings of the Government of Bombay in the Judicial Department,—No. 3003, *dated Bombay Castle, the* 25*th May* 1875.

READ the following:

Letter from the First Class Magistrate, in charge, Sholapur, No. 1263, dated 23rd May 1875, forwarding copy of a letter from the Officer Commanding Escort Party, Tandulwarree, and of a telegram sent to Government on the 23rd instant, and requesting instructions as to the place to which he is to send on the gangs of Heratees and on other points.

Telegram from the District Magistrate of Sholapur, dated 24th May 1875, on the same subject.

Ditto from ditto dated 25th May 1874, stating the nationalities of the Heratees.

RESOLUTION.—It is quite clear that little reliance can be placed on the statements of these men, and the further reports now submitted furnish different accounts of the parties and their alleged nationalities from those previously received. The District Magistrate, Sholapur, should, however, at once forward to Bombay the two jemadars and 54 persons, who state that they belong to Lus Beyla, and these should be forwarded by steamer on the 28th to Kurrachee for deportation to Lus Beyla. The 24 persons, who state that they come from Muscat, and the Teherani should be forwarded at the same time, and the former despatched to Muscat by the first opportunity, and the latter to Bushire. The Acting Police Commissioner will notice the changes thus ordered on receipt of further information since the issue of Government Resolution No. 2979 of 24th instant. The Political Agent at Muscat and the Resident at Bushire will be communicated with when the Commissioner of Police, Bombay, reports that his arrangements for their deportation are complete. But Mr. Edginton should examine these parties on their arrival, and record their statements, warning them that the orders issued with regard to them will depend on their own statements, from which, if not disproved, they will not hereafter be allowed to recede.

2. The other parties, according to the last account, consist of two jemadars and 109 Cashmerees, respecting whom further information from the District Magistrate will be awaited.

3. Orders have already been issued about the persons from Allahabad.

4. The sixteen persons, who state that they belong to Sialkot and Amritsar, should be proceeded against under the provisions of the Criminal Procedure Code, and a nominal roll of their names, ages, sex and villages should be forwarded to Government for communication to the Punjab authorities.

5. The District Magistrate should explain the discrepancy which exists between the numbers now given, which amount to a total of 209, and the number 214 previously accounted for.

6. The tattoos and heavy property of each party should be disposed of by sale, and the amount realized reported to Government, in order that the proceeds may be repaid to the parties on their arrival at their destinations.

7. The ornaments taken by the Rissaldar, with the sanction of the Hyderabad authorities, should be given back to that officer.

No. 2048, dated Bombay, the 26th May 1875.

From—A. Edginton, Esq., Acting Commissioner of Police, Bombay.

To—The Secretary to the Government of Bombay, Judicial Department.

2	jemadars.
32	men.
23	women.
28	children.
85	Total.

With reference to Government Resolution, Judicial Department, No. 3003 of yesterday's date, and to previous correspondence, I have the honour to report, for the information of Government, the arrival by this morning's train from Sholapur of the 85 foreign vagrants noted in the margin, and to forward herewith copy of a list containing the names of 81 persons received with the said vagrants from the District Magistrate, Sholapur, from which it appears that 56 of them informed that officer that they belonged to Lus Beyla; 24 that they came from Muscat; and one that he was a native of Teheran.

2. I examined these vagrants on arrival, as directed in the first paragraph of the said Resolution, and beg to enclose a list showing their names and alleged nationality, on reference to which it will be seen that, with the exception of the Teherani Mahomed *wullud* Hussen, the entire party allege that they are natives of Lus Beyla.

3. In anticipation of the sanction of Government I propose to arrange for the despatch of the 84 Lus Beylas to Kurrachee and the Teherani to Bushire by the British India Steam Navigation Company's steamer *India*, which is appointed to sail on Friday next, the 28th instant, and to send a party of one European and three Native police officers to escort them to Kurrachee, and detail one of these officers to accompany the Teherani to Bushire.

4. I beg, in conclusion, to request that the Commissioner in Sind and the Political Resident at Bushire may be duly advised of the despatch of these foreigners.

* * * * *

Extract from the Proceedings of the Government of Bombay in the Judicial Department,—No. 3098, *dated Bombay Castle, the* 27*th May* 1875.

READ—

Letter from the Acting Commissioner of Police, Bombay, No. 2048, dated 26th May 1875, reporting the arrival from Sholapur of the 85 foreign vagrants, and forwarding a list containing the names of 81 persons received with the said vagrants from the Magistrate of Sholapur, from which it appears that 56 of them informed that officer that they belonged to Lus Beyla; 24 that they came from Muscat; and one that he was a native of Teheran. Proposing, in anticipation of the sanction of Government, to arrange for the despatch of 84 Lus Beylas to Kurrachee and the Teherani to Bushire by the British Indian Steam Navigation Company's steamer *India*, which is appointed to sail on Friday, the 28th May 1875, and to send a party of one European and three Native police officers to escort them to Kurrachee, and detail one of these officers to accompany the Teherani to Bushire. Requesting that the Commissioner in Sind and the Political Resident at Bushire may be duly advised of the despatch of these foreigners.

RESOLUTION.—The proceedings of the Commissioner of Police should be approved, and he should report the arrangements as to passage-money which he has made with the Agents of the British Indian Steam Navigation Company.

2. The Commissioner in Sind will be informed by telegraph of the despatch of these men, and a copy of the nominal rolls should be sent by post. The Resident at Bushire should be informed by telegraph of the deportation of No. 34, Mahomed *wullud* Hussun.

3. The Magistrate at Sholapur should be asked by telegraph what sums he has realised to the credit of these vagrants by the sale of tattoos.

4. The Commissioner in Sind, in reply to his telegram stating that these men are most likely the same vagrants who were previously deported, should be informed that he may, if he considers it desirable, proceed against the offenders, or some of them, under Section 4 of Act III. of 1864.

(True Extract.)

W. LEEWARNER,

Acting Under Secretary to the Govt. of Bombay,
Judicial Department.

Notification by the Government of Bombay in the Judicial Department,—dated the 28th May 1875.

UNDER the provisions of Section 3 of Act III. of 1864, His Excellency the Governor of Bombay in Council is pleased to order the foreigners named in the schedule below, and believed to belong to Lus Beyla, to remove themselves from Bombay, where they now are, and from British India, by way of Kurrachee, and such further route beyond Kurrachee as the Commissioner in Sind may point out.

By order of the Governor in Council,

W. LEEWARNER,

Acting Under Secretary to the Govt. of Bombay, Judicial Department.

* * * * * *

Notification by the Government of Bombay in the Judicial Department,—dated the 28th May 1875.

UNDER the provisions of Section 3 of Act III. of 1864, His Excellency the Governor of Bombay in Council is pleased to order the foreigner named in the schedule below, and believed to belong to Teheran, to remove himself from Bombay, where he now is, and from British India, by way of Kurrachee and Bushire.

By order of the Governor in Council,

W. LEEWARNER,

Acting Under Secretary to the Govt. of Bombay, Judicial Department.

SCHEDULE.

Mahomed, *wullud* Hussun.

Extract from the Proceedings of the Government of Bombay in the Judicial Department,—No. 3120, *dated Bombay Castle, the 28th May* 1875.

READ—

Letter from the District Magistrate of Sholapur No. 1299, dated 26th May 1875, reporting that 85 members of the Heratee gang were sent off by the mail train for Bombay on 26th May in charge of a head constable and 25 police sepoys and a Native officer and twelve men of Her Majesty's 19th Regiment, Native Infantry. Giving the names of the persons now in custody, who have stated that they belong to British India,

and that he will proceed against such of them as Government desire. under Chapter 38 of the Criminal Procedure Code, but the difficulty is what is to be done with the children if their parents are imprisoned, or with the women and children if only the men are imprisoned.

RESOLUTION.—The proceedings of the District Magistrate in charge of Sholapur are approved as regards the 85 members of the gang sent to Bombay. Orders will be separately issued regarding the Cashmerees, and it is only necessary to notice these members of the gang who claim to be British subjects, residents of the Punjab, and the lad from Allahabad. With reference to the latter, Khooda Buksh Goolam Hoosein, aged 18, Lieutenant Alexander wrote on the 25th instant that from the inquiries made he supposed that the boy had been bought by the gang some eight years ago on their way through Allahabad, and that he had since become the property of one of the jemadars: "The jemadar", it was reported, "tried to force the youth to state that he (the jemadar) was his adopted father, but the boy, with tears in his eyes, begged me to separate him from the gang, and send him back to Allahabad". In the nominal roll now sent by the Magistrate, the lad is spoken of as wishing to go with the Cashmere Jemadar Koorban Ali. The youth still reports himself as a British subject from Allahabad with no relation in the gang. Under these circumstances further inquiry is necessary before final orders can be given on his case; and as he is clearly not a foreigner, he should not be deported with the Cashmere party. The Magistrate should endeavour to obtain from him fuller particulars as to his antecedents, and a reference will then be made to the Magistrate of Allahabad about him. The remaining British subjects are three men—Mahad Ali *wullud* Awa, with his son and brother-in-law; Abdulla Khan, a resident of Sialkot; Mahad Ali also belongs to Sialkot. There are four women, one of whom is Mahad Ali's wife, and the other three are relatives of Abdulla Khan, being his wife, mother, and grandmother. The five children are—three of them the family of Mahad Ali, and two are sons of Abdulla Khan. All of the above profess to be natives of Sialkot, and should be detained in Sholapur under the provisions of the Criminal Procedure Code, until the police authorities in Sialkot have been communicated with. The District Magistrate must make such arrangements for the children as he thinks best, and submit the fullest possible accounts of Mahad Ali and Abdulla Khan that their statements may be forwarded to the Punjab authorities for inquiry and report. It is very desirable that the part of the gang which belongs to India should be separately dealt with, and full inquiries instituted as to their antecedents, and the circumstances under which they have left their own countries.

(True Extract.)

W. LEE WARNER,

Acting Under Secretary to the Govt. of Bombay,

Judicial Department.

No. 3275, dated Bombay Castle, the 8th June 1875.

From—W. LEE WARNER, Esq., Acting Under Secretary to the Government of Bombay, Judicial Department.

To—The Offg. Secretary to the Government of India, Home Department.

IN continuation of this Office letter No. 3127 of 28th ultimo, I am now directed to forward, for the information of His Excellency the Governor General in Council, further correspondence as shown in the margin.

Letter from the District Magistrate, Sholapur, No. 1320, dated 28th May 1875.
Government Resolution No. 3204, dated 3rd June 1875.
Letter to Secretary to Government, North-Western Provinces, No. 9 P, dated 5th June 1875.
Letter to Resident at Hyderabad No. 3274, dated 8th June 1875.

2. It will be observed that only those vagrants who persisted in their assertion that they belonged to Cashmere have been forwarded to Allahabad. This course was not only in accordance with your telegram in reply to that sent* from this Office on the 27th ultimo, but was approved by this Government as likely to break up the gang.

* Copy by Post, No. 3093, dated 27th May 1875.

3. In conclusion, I am to express the opinion of His Excellency in Council that it would have been a preferable arrangement had the Madras Government, or the Resident at Hyderabad, availed themselves of the line of railway in their vicinity for deporting the foreigners at once, without sending them so far North as Sholapur.

No. 1320, dated Sholapur, the 28th May 1875.

From—J. L. JOHNSTON, Esq., District Magistrate, Sholapur.

To—The Acting Under Secretary to the Government of Bombay, Judicial Department.

IN accordance with paragraph 6 of Government Resolution, Judicial Department, No. 3003, dated 25th May 1875, I have the honour to append translations of the sale lists of the tattoos belonging to the Lus Beylas, to the people from Muscat, and to the man from Teheran. The jemadars have been informed that the proceeds realized will be given to them for distribution to the owners, or to the owners themselves, on their reaching their destination.

2. The tattoos belonging to the Cashmerees are being sold now, in the same way by auction, in presence of the jemadars and near the encampment.

3. In the telegram received last night I have been asked to explain the discrepancy between the detailed list of the Cashmere party, viz., two jemadars, 31 men, 36 women, and 45 children, giving a total of 114, being three too many according to my last report, which gave the sum total at 209, deducting from which 98 Lus Beylas, a Teherani, and

thirteen British Indian subjects, we have the total of the Cashmere party at 111. I have stated in my telegram in reply that the details were incorrect. An explanation of how this error occurred was given in paragraph 3 of my letter No. 1274, dated 25th instant. I have also given the correct details of the party as two jemadars, 28 men, 33 women and 48 children, which gives a total of 111, and with 85 persons in Bombay and thirteen Indian subjects here, a grand total of 209.

4. I annex a list of the numbers of the gang now in my charge, giving their alleged nationalities, sexes, and also, in the case of children, their ages.

5. As directed in paragraph 4 of the Resolution, I beg to give a nominal roll of the names, ages, sexes and villages of the thirteen persons who state that they belong to Sialkot and Allahabad.

6. I also annex a nominal roll of prisoners now in custody of the Nizam's Police at Sholapur, and copy of a joint letter No. 240 of the 27th instant, from the Acting Police Superintendent and the Officer Commanding Escort on the subject of these prisoners who appear to have been arrested at Nuldroog by the Resaldar on his way back to Hyderabad, after he had made over the gangs to us, and to have been handed over by him to the Nizam's Police Superintendent, or Mahootameen, who sent them here to the Sholapur Police Superintendent.

7. The Sholapur Police Superintendent sent these nine persons on to me, but I refused to take charge of them, and have told the Nizam's Jemadar in charge of them to keep them here till I receive orders about them. I have sent an express messenger with a yad to the Mahootameen, asking whether these nine persons were part of the gang handed over to His Highness the Nizam's Government by the Madras authorities, and what orders he has received about them from his Government. I have also telegraphed to the Resident at Hyderabad to ascertain what is to be done with these persons, and also whether the Resaldar was authorized to arrest them, and Bhadoor Khan and Kureem Khan, who are now in my charge, among the 111 Cashmerees.

8. I also annex copies of licenses and passes in the possession of the head jemadar of the Cashmerees, Wahid Allee Khan, from which an idea may be formed of the countries travelled through by the Cashmere gang.

* * * * * *

No. 240, dated Sholapur, the 27th May 1875.

From—Lieutenant F. E. ALEXANDER, Commanding Escort Party, 19th Regiment, Native Infantry, and S. KYTE, Inspector of Police, in charge Police Superintendent's Office.

To—The District Magistrate of Sholapur.

WE have the honour to forward, in accordance with your letter of this morning's date, a detailed account of the men therein referred to.

From enquiries we find that the nine individuals in question were arrested at Nuldroog by the Resaldar who was in charge of the gang in His Highness the Nizam's territory. It would also appear that two of the men handed over with the gang, and who are now in our custody, were also arrested between Hyderabad and Nuldroog. The Resaldar, whilst giving over charge of the gang, stated that he had orders to arrest any one visiting their relations amongst the prisoners, and it was in consequence of this that he arrested Bhadoor Khan and Kurreem Khan.

Mulkapoor, West Berar, the 7th December 1873.

CERTIFIED that Wahid Ali and Shaikh Moorad (brothers), Jemadars, with a party of twenty-four Cashmerees, arrived here on the 5th instant, and this day for Hyderabad, Deccan, *viâ* Akola and Oomraoti; they possess licenses to carry arms, viz :

Shaikh Moorad, two guns ; Goolabas, one gun, and Gool Mahomed, one gun.

They trade in horses, stones, artificial pearls, &c. ; are peaceably disposed and well behaved. They encamped at Mulkapoor for three days, during which time no complaints were made against them. This certificate is granted in view that they may not be molested on their journey.

(Signature not legible.)
Inspector, Mulkapoor Taluq.

Seal
Assistant
Magistrate,
Kurnool.

WAHEED ALLY KHAN and party 51, of Cashmere, arrived here on the evening of 4th October 1874, and leave to-morrow for Madras, *viâ* Cuddappah. The said Khan shewed many licenses granted by the Bengal and Bombay authorities to carry arms and sell artificial jewels. The party have no arms for the present. The said Khan having asked for a general passport, he is personally informed that so long as he and his party behave well, there is no fear of their being molested on their journey.

KURNOOL;
The 5th October 1874.

K. SUKHARAM,
Additional Deputy Magistrate.

Writing in Telegu.

K. SUKHARAM,
Additional Deputy Magistrate.

These people have reported themselves at this Office, and as long as they behave properly no hindrance will be offered to them.

Seal.

Bangalore;
The 2nd December 1874.

Signed H. (not legible.)
Offg. Town and Cantonment Magistrate,
Bangalore.

These people have reported themselves at this Office, and the Inspectors of Oosoor and Durumpury Taluqs have been directed to see them safely through their taluqs.

Seal of the Joint Magistrate of Salim.

Oosoor;
The 8th December 1874.

FRANK WILKINSON,
Joint Magistrate.

A Heratee, Wahid Ali Khan, is returning to his Native country *viâ* Cuddappah and Kurnool with about 200 men, women and children, 150 horses and three fire-arms. They have false stones and other articles for sale, which they are permitted to sell, and purchase any articles they require.

Seal of the Head Assistant to Magistrate of Bellary.

(No signature.)
For District Magistrate, Kolar District.

Colar;
The 18th February 1875.

Pennacondah, dated the 15th March 1875.

THESE people have reported themselves here, and leave this to-day, under police surveillance, for Kurnool *viâ* Gooty. Four carts have been allowed them for carrying baggage, so that they may get on as fast as possible.

J. A. DAVIES,
Head Assistant Magistrate.

Seal.

Writing in Canarese.

(Signature in English not legible.)
For District Magistrate, Kolar District.

* * * * * *

Extract from the Proceedings of the Government of Bombay in the Judicial Department,—No. 3204, *dated Bombay Castle, the* 3rd *June* 1875.

READ the following:

Letter from the District Magistrate of Sholapur No. 1320, dated 28th May 1875, forwarding, with reference to Government Resolution No. 3003, dated 28th May 1875, translations of the sale lists of tattoos belonging to the Lus Beylans, to the people from Muscat, and to the man from Teheran; stating that the jemadars have been informed that the proceeds realized will be given to them for distribution to the owners, or to the owners themselves, on their reaching their destination; stating further that the tattoos belonging to the Cashmerees are being sold, in the same way by auction, in presence of the jemadars and near the encampment; and forwarding nominal roll of the 111 Cashmerees, of the persons now in the charge of His Highness the Nizam's Police at Sholapur, and of the Sialkotis.

RESOLUTION.—A copy of the list of tattoos sold and the prices realized on behalf of the Lus Beylan and Muscat gang already deported to Kurrachee on the 28th ultimo should be forwarded to the Commissioner in Sind, in order that the sum so realized, which amounts to Rs. 264-14, may be refunded to the owners of the tattoos on their arrival in their own country. The Commissioner of Police, Bombay, has already been authorized to make arrangements for re-paying Rs. 3-5 to the Teherani on his arrival at Bushire. The Accountant General should be informed, copy of previous resolutions on the subject of the sale of these tattoos being forwarded to him.

2. The nominal roll of 111 Cashmerees consisting of 30 men, 33 women and 48 children, together with the supplementary list of five persons now in the charge of His Highness the Nizam's Police at Sholapur, should be at once printed as a schedule to the notification ordering their deportation *viâ* Allahabad.

3. There are four persons, residents of Bunder Abass, who are now in the custody of the Nizam's Police, who are related to the members of the larger gang. As they wish to be deported with the main gang, this would be the most convenient course; but Act III. of 1864 does not provide for the deportation of foreigners to other than their own country, and they must accordingly be separately disposed of after the main body has been sent away. The District Magistrate should take charge from the Nizam's Police of the nine persons above alluded to; but at the same time the Resident at Hyderabad should be informed by letter that it is exceedingly inconvenient for the Sholapur Police to be required to take charge of continuous drafts of vagrants from the Nizam's territory. They can be deported to Cashmere equally well from Goolburgah or Hyderabad itself, or marched Northwards from Berar. In fact, it appears from a certificate dated 7th December 1873, given at Mulkapur, that some of the present gang were allowed to pass through Berar several months past. And if they are to be deported to their own country, that route would be more direct than a journey through Puna and Callian.

4. The nominal roll and description of the Sialkotis, numbering twelve persons, should be forwarded to the Punjab Government, with a view to enquiries being made into the antecedents of Mahad Ali Khan and his return to his own country. The Government of the North-Western Provinces will be addressed on the subject of the Allahabad vagrant.

5. Copies of Mr. Johnston's letter and of this Resolution should be forwarded to the Government of India in continuation of previous correspondence.

(True Extract.)

W. LEEWARNER,

Acting Under Secretary to the Govt. of Bombay,
Judicial Department.

No. 9 P, dated Mahableshwar, the 5th June 1875.

From—W. LEEWARNER, Esq., Acting Under Secretary to the Government of Bombay, Judicial Department.

To—The Secretary to the Government of the North-Western Provinces.

I AM directed by His Excellency the Governor in Council to forward herewith a written order for the deportation of a gang of Cashmeree vagrants received from the authorities at Hyderabad, Deccan, with a

nominal roll attached. I am to request that you will be so good as to permit the Khandeish Police party which escorts them to return as soon as possible to Julgaum.

No. 3274, dated Bombay Castle, the 8th June 1875.

From—W. LEE WARNER, Esq., Acting Under Secrerary to the Government of Bombay, Judicial Department.

To—The Resident at Hyderabad.

I AM directed by His Excellency the Governor in Council to reply to letter No. 218, dated 3rd May 1875, from your First Assistant, and with reference thereto, to forward for your information copies of the resolutions quoted in the margin, which will show you what action has been taken by the Bombay Government on that communication.

Government Resolution No. 2979, dated 24th May 1875.
Ditto ditto No. 3003, dated 25th May 1875.
Notification dated 28th May 1875.
Government Resolution No. 3120, dated 28th May 1875.
Ditto ditto No. 3204, dated 3rd June 1875.
Notification dated 5th June 1875.

2. In connection with the Resolution dated 3rd June, No. 3204, I enclose copy of a pass dated Mulkapur, 7th December 1873, granted to jemadar of the Cashmeree party, the signature on which was illegible. The reception of so large a gang at Sholapur has caused some inconvenience in consequence of disturbances which have recently broken out in the adjoining districts and the necessity for sparing as large a portion of the district police as was available for duty in the taluqs away from head quarters. The detention, moreover, of the foreign vagrants was more prolonged than it otherwise would have been in consequence of the absence of all detailed information as to the nationalities or antecedents of the members of the gang. Nor until the gang arrived at Sholapur does any enquiry appear to have been instituted with a view to separating the foreign vagrants who might be dealt with under Act III. of 1864 from those who were British subjects.

3. I am directed to suggest for your consideration the desirability of forwarding such information in the event of further gangs being deported into the Bombay Presidency. At the same time it appears to His Excellency in Council that it would have been more convenient if the portion of the gang which passed through Berar had been stopped there and forced to return to their own countries. The gang escorted to Sholapur appears to have come from Bellary, and must have crossed the Great Indian Peninsular Railway both on the main line and in its extension to Hyderabad.

4. Under these circumstances, and with the information before him, His Excellency in Council considers that it would have been more convenient if both the Lus Beylan and the Cashmeree party had been at once deported from the nearest railway station instead of being marched North to Sholapur, to be thence deported by rail to Bombay and Allahabad.

No. 1018, dated Simla, the 21st June 1875.

Endorsed by the Home Department.

FORWARDED to the Madras Government in continuation of Home Department endorsement No. 915, dated 29th ultimo.

No. 3430, dated Bombay Castle, the 16th June 1875.

From—W. LEE WARNER, Esq., Acting Under Secretary to the Government of Bombay, Judicial Department.

To—The Offg. Secretary to the Government of India, Home Department.

IN continuation of my letter No. 3275, dated the 8th instant, I am directed to transmit the accompanying copy of a statement showing the amount realized by the sale of the tattoos belonging to the Cashmere party of vagrants sent *viâ* Allahabad, and to request that the sums may be restored to the owners when the Government of India see fit.

* * * * * *

No. 3737, dated Bombay Castle, the 30th June 1875.

From—W. LEE WARNER, Esq., Acting Under Secretary to the Government of Bombay, Judicial Department.

To—The Offg. Secretary to the Government of India, Home Department

IN continuation of this Government letter No. 3275 of the 8th June 1875, I am directed to forward the accompanying copy of a letter from the District Magistrate of Sholapur No. 1536, dated 21st idem, with accompaniments, and to request that the Government of India may be moved to authorize the despatch of the Allahabad lad and the Sialkot party of vagrants referred to to Allahabad to be there disposed of as may seem best.

No. 1536, dated Sholapur, the 21st June 1875.

From—J. H. GRANT, Esq., District Magistrate, Sholapur.

To—The Acting Under Secretary to the Government of Bombay, Judicial Department.

IN compliance with paragraph 2 of your letter No. 3276 of the 8th instant, I have the honour to submit copies of statements made by the Sialkot party and the Allahabad lad, together with their descriptive rolls, and to state that no further information with regard to them is obtainable here.

STATEMENT OF KHOODABUX.

I STATE as follows: My name is Khoodabux; my father's name is Goolam Hussain; my age, seventeen years; my caste, Shaik (Mussalman); my occupation, merchant; my residence, Allahabad. I was born in Allahabad. My father had two wives. I am his only son by his first wife. My mother had no other children. My father died when I was very young. I was about four years of age when my mother died. One of my father's friends took care of me after the death of my parents. I do not know his name. One Koorban Ali brought me away from Allahabad. He first took me to Cashmere. From thence we came to Madras and travelled on to Hyderabad (Nizam's Dominions). From this place we were sent to Sholapur. Koorban Ali was sent to Bombay from this place with the last gang that left a few days ago. I have no relations or friends in Allahabad. I have no wish to go there. As I was very young when I left Allahabad, I do not know any one at the place. My father's second wife had one son only. Her name is Jainaboo. She was alive when I left Allahabad. My step-brother's name is Husseinbux. After my parents' death he took care of me, but as he used to ill-treat me, I ran away with the said Koorban Ali. I do not know whether Husseinbux is in Allahabad or not. I should like to be sent away with the Sialkot party.

Before me, the 17th June 1875.

JOHN EDWARDS,
Magistrate, 1st class, Sholapur.

* * * * * *

No. 1390, dated Ootacamund, the 21st June 1875.

From—The Honourable D. F. CARMICHAEL, Offg. Chief Secretary to the Government of Madras.

To—The Offg. Secretary to the Government of India.

WITH reference to endorsement No. 915, dated the 29th ultimo, forwarding copy of correspondence with the Government of Bombay regarding certain Heratee gangs, I am directed to transmit the papers marginally noted, which explain the circumstances under which they came into this Presidency, and were sent back in the direction of their own country. Their delivery

Proceedings dated	2nd	February	1875, Nos. 35 to 37.
Ditto	3rd	ditto	1875, Nos. 53 to 54 A.
Ditto	6th	ditto	1875, Nos. 70 & 71.
Ditto	8th	ditto	1875, Nos. 71A & 71 B.
Ditto	19th	ditto	1875, Nos. 163 & 164.
Ditto	24th	ditto	1875, Nos. 199 & 200.
Ditto	24th	ditto	1875, Nos. 201 & 202.
Ditto	26th	ditto	1875, Nos. 222 & 223.
Ditto	27th	ditto	1875, Nos. 224 & 225.
Ditto	2nd	April	1875, Nos. 26 & 27.
Ditto	8th	May	1875, Nos. 61 to 65.

to the Hyderabad authorities was reported to the Government of India in the Home Department by my letter No. 1114 of 8th May ultimo.

P. S.—Since the above was sent to Press your endorsement No. 1018, dated 21st June, enclosing further papers in original on the same subject, which are herewith returned as desired, has been received. It does not appear that any additional information is required.

Progs. No. 35.

Extract from the Proceedings of the Government of Madras in the Judicial Department,—No. 226, dated Fort St. George, the 2nd February 1875.

READ the following:

Telegram No. 15, dated Theruvellum, the 1st February 1875.

From—W. S. WHITESIDE, Esq., Magistrate of North Arcot.

To—The Acting Chief Secretary to the Govt. of Madras.

ANOTHER large gang of Heratees, 150 in number, have entered this district from Mysore, now at Palmanair. Are violent, unruly and very troublesome. Large party of police required to accompany and watch them. Say they deal in false gems, and are going to Nagpur. Got no passports. I solicit sanction to return them to Mysore under Act III. of 1864.

Progs. No. 36.

ORDER THEREON.

THE gang of Heratees referred to in the above telegram having entered the District of North Arcot from Mysore, the Governor in Council resolves, under Section 3, Act III. of 1864, to direct that it be marched to the frontier of Mysore under the custody of a police force able to control it, and be there handed over to the Mysore authorities.

2. The Magistrate of North Arcot will place himself in communication with the Superintendent of the Division of the Mysore Territory bordering on that district, in order to arrangements being made by that officer for taking charge of the gang.

3. Copy of these Proceedings will be forwarded to the Chief Commissioner of Mysore with the suggestion that the Heratees may be deported thence and sent in the direction of their own country.

(True Extract.)

D. F. CARMICHAEL,

Acting Chief Secretary to the Govt. of Madras.

Progs. No. 37.

No. 227, dated Fort St. George, the 2nd February 1875.

From—The Honourable D. F. CARMICHAEL, Acting Chief Secretary to the Government of Madras.

To—The Chief Commissioner of Mysore.

Dated 2nd February 1875, No. 226.

I AM directed to enclose copy of the Proceedings of this Government noted marginally, and to suggest that the Heratees therein referred to may be deported from the Mysore territory and sent in the direction of their own country.

Progs. No. 53.

Extract from the Proceedings of the Government of Madras in the Judicial Department,—No. 238, *dated Fort St. George, the* 3rd *February* 1875.

READ the following:

No. 6, dated Trivellum, the 2nd February 1875.

From—W. S. WHITESIDE, Esq., Collector and Magistrate of North Arcot.

To—The Acting Chief Secretary to the Govt. of Madras.

IN acknowledging the receipt of your telegram of this day's date, I have the honour to inform you that immediately on receiving the official intimation of the arrival of the gang of Heratees at Palmanair and of their disorderly conduct there, I sent off by express orders to the Taluq Magistrate of Palmanair to detain the gang at that station until orders were received from Government upon the reference I was about to make; and I at the same time requested the Superintendent of Police to take the necessary steps to have the people carefully watched, pending the issue of the orders of Government.

2. The gang is still at Palmanair, and if turned back into the Mysore territory, will only have a short distance to march before they quit the limits of this Presidency.

3. I have to-day heard that, when travelling through the Mysore territory, this gang gave a great deal of trouble to the villagers and local officials, and I think it is to be regretted that no intimation was given to me by the magistracy there of the march towards my district of so large and troublesome a party of vagrants.

Progs. No. 54.

ORDER THEREON.

THIS letter will be communicated to the Chief Commissioner, Mysore, in continuation of No. 227 of yesterday. The Collector will be furnished with copy.

(True Extract.)

D. F. CARMICHAEL,

Acting Chief Secretary to the Govt. of Madras.

Progs. No. 54 A.

No. 238 A, dated Fort St. George, the 3rd February 1875.

From—The Honourable D. F. CARMICHAEL, Acting Chief Secretary to the Government of Madras.

To—The Chief Commissioner of Mysore.

IN continuation of my No. 227 of yesterday, I am desired to enclose copy of another communication from the Collector of North Arcot. His Excellency in Council learns from a demi-official letter from the Collector that the Deputy Commissioner, Bangalore, had these men escorted to the North Arcot frontier by a party of Silladar Horse.

2. As the standing orders of the Government of India require that such gangs should be returned to their own country, the Governor in Council requests that you will receive these men at your frontier, and cause them to be passed on to the North.

3. I am, by desire of His Excellency in Council, telegraphing to you to oblige the Madras Government by attending to any requisition for a party of Silladar Horse that may be made to you by the Collector, who has information which leads him to believe that the Heratees must be controlled by force.

Progs. No. 70.

Extract from the Proceedings of the Government of Madras in the Judicial Department,—No. 270, *dated Fort St. George, the* 6*th February* 1875.

READ the following letter:

No. 7963—39, dated Mysore, the 4th February 1875.

From—H. WELLESLEY, Esq., Secretary to the Chief Commissioner of Mysore.

To—The Acting Chief Secretary to the Govt. of Madras.

I AM directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letters noted in the margin, and to state, for the information of His Excellency the Governor in Council, that due

No. 227, dated 2nd February 1875.
No. 238, dated 3rd February 1875.

arrangements are being made for receiving and forwarding on to the frontier to the North the gang of Heratees referred to. A copy of the Chief Commissioner's Proceedings of this date is hereto appended.

Extract from the Proceedings of the Chief Commissioner of Mysore,— No. 7966—133 *J, dated the 4th February* 1875.

READ the following:

Letters from the Madras Government No. 227, dated 2nd February 1875, and No. 238, dated 3rd idem.

ORDER THEREON.

ORDERED that a copy of the foregoing letters be forwarded to the Military Assistant, the Judicial Commissioner, the Commissioner of Nandydroog and the Deputy Commissioners of Kolar and Tumkur.

The total number of Heratees is not mentioned, but it must be over 200.

2. The Military Assistant will provide an escort of 50 Silladars, and the Judicial Commissioner is requested to cause the police to be on the alert.

3. The gang will be forwarded to the frontier by the Bellary Road and there handed over to the Madras authorities, due intimation being given to the Magistrate of Bellary by the Deputy Commissioner of Chituldroog.

4. The Deputy Commissioner of Kolar is requested to explain, through the Commissioner of Nandydroog, why he sent the gang across the frontier into the North Arcot District without giving notice to the Madras authorities, and to report by what route it entered the Mysore territory.

Copy of these Proceedings will be communicated to the Madras Government and the Magistrate of North Arcot.

(True Extract.)

H. WELLESLEY,

Secretary to the Chief Commissioner of Mysore.

Progs. No. 71.

ORDER THEREON.

COPY furnished to the Magistrates of North Arcot and Bellary, and to the Inspector General of Police.

2. The Magistrate of Bellary will arrange to send the gang out of the district by the North.

(True Extract.)

D. F. CARMICHAEL,

Acting Chief Secretary to the Govt. of Madras.

Progs. No. 71 A.

Extract from the Proceedings of the Government of Madras in the Judicial Department,—No. 271, *dated Fort St. George, the* 8*th February* 1875.

READ the following :

No. 7, dated Trivellum, the 4th February 1875.

From—W. S. WHITESIDE, Esq., District Magistrate of North Arcot.

To—The Acting Chief Secretary to the Govt. of Madras.

IN acknowledging your telegram of yesterday, I have the honour to inform you that at present I am of opinion that it will not be necessary to have recourse to the assistance of a military force to escort the gang of Heratees to the Mysore frontier, and trust that a strong party of police will effect this object. I have, however, written to the Superintendent of Police inquiring his opinion with reference to the telegram in question, and shall keep the Government duly informed of the further measures that may be taken in this matter.

2. I have this morning received from the Acting Head Assistant Magistrate in charge of the sub-division of this district copy of a letter* addressed to him by the Deputy Commissioner of the Bangalore District, stating that a body of Kandaharees or Beluchis, nearly 200 in number, left that place for Kolar on the 21st January on their way to Madras, and that, in consequence of the frequent complaints preferred against them by the villagers of demands for supplies being enforced by threats, and in some instances of articles having been carried off by force, it has been found necessary to have them escorted by a party of the Silladar Horse to the frontier of the Mysore territory. These, I imagine, constitute the gang now under surveillance at Palmanair.

* Dated 29th January 1875.

3. I have addressed the Superintendent of the Kolar District in view to arrangements being made to take charge of the gang on the frontier of this district.

Progs. No. 71 B.

ORDER THEREON.

THE Magistrate will turn this second gang back also.

2. Copy of this further correspondence will be furnished to the Chief Commissioner, Mysore, with reference to letters Nos. 227 and 238, dated 2nd and 3rd February 1875, and his reply No. 7963—39, dated 4th idem.

(True Extract.)

D. F. CARMICHAEL,

Acting Chief Secretary to the Govt. of Madras.

Progs. No. 163.

Extract from the Proceedings of the Government of Madras in the Judicial Department,—No. 389, *dated Fort St. George, the* 19*th February* 1875.

READ the following letter:

No. 8413—43, dated Bangalore, the 17th February 1875.

From—H. W. WELLESLEY, Esq., Secretary to the Chief Commissioner of Mysore.

To—The Acting Chief Secretary to the Govt. of Madras.

IN forwarding for the information of His Excellency the Governor in Council the accompanying copy of the Officiating Chief Commissioner's Proceedings of this day's date No. 8414—1808, regarding the deportation of the Heratees referred to, I am directed to state that, although Section 3 of Act III. of 1864 authorises a Local Government to order any foreigner to remove himself from British India, it appears doubtful whether the Act comtemplated the deportation of turbulent gangs from the countries lying to the North of India across the frontier of a small Native State surrounded by British territory on all sides. The Officiating Chief Commissioner views with dislike the presence of these gangs in the territory under his administration; and in the present case the route to their own country of the gang referred to did not, I am to observe, lie through Mysore territory. Mr. Gordon would suggest that in future such gangs may be directed to remove themselves from British territory by some route other than through the Mysore Province, unless it lies in the direct road.

2. I am to add that orders have been passed on the part of this administration directing that similar gangs who conduct themselves lawlessly shall be conducted to the Northern frontier of the Province and then handed over to Her Majesty's authorities.

Extract from the Proceedings of the Chief Commissioner of Mysore,— No. 8414—1808, *dated the* 17*th February* 1875.

READ the following letter :

No. 2300—1368, dated Kolar, the 16th February 1875.

From—B. KRISHNIENGAR, Deputy Commissioner, Kolar District.

To—The Secretary to the Chief Commissioner of Mysore.

ADVERTING to the 3rd paragraph of the Chief Commissioner's Proceedings No. 7966—133, dated 4th February 1875, I have the honour to state that the gang of Heratees therein referred to arrived here this day in charge of the sowars ordered out by the Military Assistant and the police guard deputed under the orders of the Judicial Commissioner.

2. The Heratees declare now that the nearest route to their country by which they came to Mysore is by Cuddapah, as can be observed from the enclosed copy of passport dated 5th October 1874, granted by the Deputy Magistrate of Kurnool, and not by Bellary, and beg that they may be permitted to return to their country by the same route, and that some arrangement may be made for their subsistence, as they are compelled to travel under restraint without being allowed to go into the villages for selling the articles of merchandize they possess and thereby gaining the means of livelihood.

3. If the route proposed by the Heratees is approved of, they will be despatched *viâ* Srenivaspur to Muddenpully to the Cuddapah District, communicating to the Magistrate of that district the date of their arrival on his frontier.

4. I solicit early instructions on the matter as they obstinately refuse to move in the Bellary direction.

PASSPORT.

WAHID ALI KHAN and party (51), of Cashmere, arrived here on the evening of 4th October 1874, and leave to-morrow for Madras *viâ* Cuddapah. The said Khan showed many licenses granted by the Bengal and Bombay authorities to carry arms and sell artificial jewels. The party have no arms for the present. The said Khan having asked for a general passport, he is personally informed that so long as he and his party behave well there is no fear of their being molested on their journey to Kurnool.

KURNOOL;
The 5*th October* 1874.

K. SUBBA ROW,
Additional Deputy Magistrate, Kurnool.

ORDER THEREON.

UNDER the circumstances stated in the foregoing letter the Officiating Chief Commissioner directs that the Heratees referred to may be sent to Cuddapah, instead of Bellary, by the route proposed by the Deputy Commissioner, who should at once place himself in communication with the Magistrate of Cuddapah. The gang should not be sent across the frontier until the Magistrate is prepared to receive the men, and till then the escort of Silladars should accompany them.

2. The Heratees must make their own arrangements for their subsistence, and may be allowed to carry on any lawful trade as long as they conduct themselves in any orderly manner and do no harm to the country people.

(True Extract.)

H. W. WELLESLEY,

Secretary to the Chief Commissioner of Mysore.

Progs. No. 164.

ORDER THEREON.

THE gang was turned back through the Mysore territory because it was distinctly stated that it had come from that quarter.

2. The Chief Commissioner will be informed that the Governor in Council regrets that, instead of following his original intention of forwarding the gang to the British frontier near Bellary, where there is a large military force, he has turned them aside to the Cuddapah frontier.

3. The conduct of the Native Deputy Collector, Kurnool, in supplying the head of the gang with a paper in the nature of a "passport or rahdari parwani" is directly opposed to the express order of the Government of India. The Magistrate of Kurnool should have turned them back into the Hyderabad country, from which they must have come, communicating at the same time with the Resident.

Proceedings dated 8th December 1868.

4. Copy of these Proceedings will be furnished to the Chief Commissioner, Mysore. All Magistrates will also receive a copy for information and guidance with reference to paragraph 3.

(True Extract.)

D. F. CARMICHAEL,

Acting Chief Secretary to the Govt. of Madras.

Progs. No. 199.

Extract from the Proceedings of the Government of Madras in the Judicial Department,—No. 437, dated Fort St. George, the 24th February 1875.

READ the following letter:

No. 11, dated Vellore, the 17th February 1875.

From—W. S. WHITESIDE, Esq., District Magistrate of North Arcot.

To—The Acting Chief Secretary to the Govt. of Madras.

I HAVE the honour to report, in continuation of my letter No. 6, dated 6th instant, that the band of Heratees therein referred to refused to be detained at Palmanair, and pushed on to Gudiattum, announcing their intention of coming on to Vellore. Their behaviour was most violent and daring. They had with them a large number of horses and ponies, which they regularly turned loose to graze in the fields, and if the unfortunate owner of the crops attempted to drive off the animals, he was at once assaulted by the owners. At each halt, and in every village they passed through, the gang broke up into parties and visited every house. The men stood outside twirling long sticks and keeping off the villagers, while their females forced their way into the houses, and annoyed the inmates in all kinds of ways—always with an eye to plunder. In one instance that has been reported, they deliberately broke the lock and entered a house, the owners of which were absent.

2. The police guard that was at first sent to look after and restrain them was wholly powerless, so unruly was the gang; and a large party of police was therefore telegraphed for from Salem, and every available constable in this district was hunted up and sent on to Gudiattum. Captain Cox met me at Vellore, and as I was most anxious to prevent the gang coming on to Vellore, where the Mohurrum was just commencing, we went out and met the gang at Gudiattum on the 7th instant.

3. The leaders were at first inclined to be noisy and turbulent, but were soon convinced that they had no option but to submit and turn back. They of course raised many objections to setting off at once, and two of them were, I thought, deserving of some consideration. One of their women had died that morning, and they were anxious to bury her decently and erect a tomb over the grave, and another woman was in labour. I also learned that five of their party had gone down to Madras, it was said, to get a fresh supply of false pearls, and were believed to be in custody. I therefore allowed them to halt at Gudiattum until the morning of the 9th instant, and during that time their camp was surrounded by a cordon of sentries, and the members of the gang prevented from wandering about from village to village as they wished.

4. I communicated with Colonel Drever, who found the five men I wanted, and sent them up very promptly from Madras; and I sent orders for the supplies required by the gang to be in readiness for them at each halting place, and thus we were able to restrain them from again committing the acts of violence and depredation that had marked their entrace into the district and march to Gudiattum.

5. Captain Cox accompanied the gang on their return march to the frontier, and had but little trouble with them when they were once off, except at one place, where some of the gang showed signs of unruliness, but the arrest of the most violent man of the party, and his detention in custody until the next march commenced, quieted them effectually.

6. On arrival at Palmanair Captain Cox was astonished to discover the panic that they had succeeded in establishing when they first halted there; and so many complaints were made against them, that he decided on searching the whole gang, which he did, without previous notice, at a suitable open spot on the march from Palmanair. Each one of the gang was found to be possessed of a number of sovereigns, goldmohurs and rupees, and ornaments composed of strings of gold coins; and they also had a good deal of silver jewellery, but nothing of such sort as warranted his detaining the gang for enquiry.

7. The march was continued, and on the 12th instant the gang was handed over to an escort of 50 Silladar Horse, which, in accordance with my request, had been sent to await their arrival at Putticonda, the last halting place after leaving Palmanair, and they were at once conducted out of the district.

8. During the time we thus had the gang in charge, we discovered that it was composed of four distinct parties, one of them being that respecting which I addressed to Government my letter No. 7, dated 4th instant, and they are intimately connected with, and have perfect knowledge of, the movements of the other gangs that are now in this Presidency, although the seizures had only occurred a few days before they were perfectly aware of the recent arrest of the gangs of Heratees in the Cuddapah District and Madras. They profess to come from a place called Cashmere in Beluchistan, but this story is extremely doubtful. There is strong reason to believe that their real *habitat* is in the Nizam's territory. When I first informed them that they were to go back, they were very urgent to be allowed to break up the party, the women and children going back to Hyderabad, and the men continuing their march to Nagore, and on their return journey they frequently said " once over the Kistna and we are at home".

9. I think it is now quite clear that the trade in mock gems and pearls (the stock-in-trade of which they admitted they purchase wholesale in Madras) is merely the ostensible pretext they put forward, enabling them to visit and force an entrance into villagers' houses, and there steal everything they can lay their hands on. They had with them large bunches of keys, doubtless used to open boxes in the houses they

thus enter, and this fact I regard as a strong indication of the unlawful nature of their occupation and character; and I now again beg very respectfully, but most strongly, to urge upon Government the advisability of preventing for the future raids of this kind into our usually quiet districts, by enforcing firmly the wholesome provisions of Sections 14 and 15 of Act III. of 1864.

Progs. No. 200.

ORDER THEREON.

IT will suffice to call the attention of all District Magistrates to the Resolution of 1868 by the Government of India (G. O., Judicial, No. 1848, dated 8th December 1868)—On the appearance of gangs of foreigners of doubtful or lawless character in any district, the Magistrate will call upon them to retrace their steps, and if they refuse to do so, he will detain them and report to Government for orders.

2. The Sections of Act III. of 1864, which Mr. Whiteside recommends for general adoption, can only be applied when the Governor General in Council shall have issued a proclamation in respect of foreigners in general under Section 5.

(True Extract.)

D. F. CARMICHAEL,

Acting Chief Secretary to the Govt. of Madras.

Progs. No. 201.

Extract from the Proceedings of the Government of Madras in the Judicial Department,—No. 438, *dated the* 24*th February* 1875.

READ the following letter:

No. 922, dated Madras, the 22nd February 1875.

From—Lieutenant-Colonel C. S. HEARN, Inspector General of Police, Madras.

To—The Acting Chief Secretary to the Govt. of Madras.

WITH reference to G. O. No. 226, dated 2nd February 1875, Judicial Department, I have the honour to forward a copy of a letter from the District Superintendent of Police to the Magistrate of North Arcot, reporting the transfer of the gang of Heratees therein mentioned to the Mysore authorities across the frontier.

2. I take this opportunity to bring the subject of the so-called "Heratee" gangs prominently to the notice of Government.

3. Within the last few weeks no less than three of these gangs have come under the hands of the police—one in Madras town, another

in Cuddapah, a third in North Arcot. With the two former a large amount of coin, gold and jewellery (the latter broken up, and evidently stolen property) was found. The North Arcot gang also possessed sovereigns, mohurs, rupees, and a quantity of gold and silver jewellery. These articles did not correspond with any on the police lists of the districts of this Presidency through which the gangs had passed; probably they had been stolen in other Provinces or territories. The members of the gang which unwarily encamped within Madras municipal limits were convicted and punished by fine under the special provisions of the Town Police Act (Section 17, Act VIII. of 1867). The men of the Cuddapah gang are under remand to be produced before the District Magistrate on a charge under Section 411, Penal Code, which will not probably stand. The North Arcot gang have been sent back to Mysore.

4. Gang No. 1 came down to Madras through the Kistna and Nellore Districts; gang No. 2 came to Cuddapah through Kurnool and Cumbum; gang No. 3 came across the Mysore frontier into North Arcot. These Heratee gangs do not commit robberies and dacoities on a large scale in this Presidency, probably because, being foreigners, they know that they would be at once detected; but the women of the gang are expert thieves, and after the departure of a gang from a town or village it is not unusual to hear of property being missed. Wherever they go they are a nuisance and a terror to the people, upon whom they deliberately prey in various ways. The women dance before a house in no very decent fashion, and then thrust their mock stones (bits of coloured glass) and pearls into the hands of the female spectators, from whom they absolutely refuse to take them back, demanding an exorbitant price for an article worth about an anna. In this way they screw a good deal of money out of the villagers, who are terrified into acquiescence by their violent manner. Another dodge is this: A Heratee goes to a bazaar to buy ghee, suddenly dips his hand into the pot, takes out some ghee in his palm, puts his tongue to it, declares it is bad, and puts it back into the pot, the whole contents of which are thereby polluted for Hindus. When the bazaarman complains of this, the Heratee offers to take the pot of ghee off his hands at a low figure. This sort of rough humour is of course not much relished by the victims who have to pay for it. The Heratees systematically trespass on the standing crops with their ponies, and violently resist any attempt to impound their animals. In fact they are a pest to the inhabitants wherever they go, and their reasons for making lengthy and prolonged tours in this Presidency probably are that they find it easy to live on the people, and that, having committed serious crimes elsewhere, they seek to elude justice by travelling in distant parts. Many of their misdeeds in this Presidency doubtless escape notice, because the chief wish of the people is to get rid of them as quickly as possible. Consequently the sufferers forbear from complaint, because this involves the detention of the gang. If any of these Heratees are brought under the arm of the law in this Presidency, the evil caused by their presence is only intensified, for, when members of the gang are imprisoned, the remainder quarter

themselves in the vicinity of the jail until their friends are released. In Tinnevelly, some years ago, the Government felt obliged to pardon some Heratee women, convicted of theft, in order to deport the gang, which had become an intolerable nuisance.

G. O. No. 1490, dated 20th October 1865.
Do. No. 1563, dated 2nd November 1865.
Do. No. 1692, dated 27th November 1865.

5. I trust that I have sufficiently shown the necessity of keeping these so-called "Heratee" gipsies out of the Madras Presidency, where, for the reasons given, they cannot be effectively controlled and prevented from harrassing and plundering the people. The Government, in their order No. 1407, dated 29th September 1865, instructed Magistrates to send back all such gangs at once, and to compel them to quit British territory. This was acted upon until the publication of letter No. 72, No. 4547, dated 12th November 1868, from the Secretary to Government of India, Home Department (G. O. No. 1848, dated 8th December 1868), since which time some Magistrates have continued to stop these gangs, while others have allowed them to pass on to adjacent districts. I submit that they ought always to be stopped at once, and sent back across the frontier. I imagine that this can be done under Sections 3 and 4, Act III. of 1864 (without any extension of the provisions of the Act), since the "sufficient cause", alluded to in paragraph 4 of the Home Secretary's letter, may be held always to exist in the case of Heratee wandering gangs. But it is essential that there should be authority for *prompt* action in stopping these gangs at once whenever they enter the limits of the Madras Presidency.

No. 127, dated Chittoor, the 15th February 1875.

From—Captain H. W. H. Cox, Superintendent of Police, North Arcot.

To—The Magistrate of North Arcot.

I have the honour to inform you that, in accordance with the orders of Government, the Heratees have been marched to the Mysore frontier, and there handed over to an escort of Silladar Horse.

2. As arranged by you at Gudiattum on the 7th instant, the Heratees were allowed to remain at that place on the 8th. On the 9th I moved them to Synigunta, and on to Palmanair the following day. I allowed them to halt at Palmanair on the 11th, sending them on to Patticoondah on the 12th, and across the frontier on the 13th.

3. I found at Gudiattum that even with a strong party of police it was impossible to keep them in order without curtailing their liberty, and accordingly shut them up in their camp inside a cordon of sentries, strictly prohibiting all intercourse between them and the villagers.

4. They remained thus in *quasi*-custody until they left the district. The arrangements made by you, through the Tahsildars of Gudiattum

and Palmanair, for the supply of the necessaries of life to them on payment, enabled me without inconvenience to place them under this restraint, which I found to be absolutely necessary.

5. Except at Byappagaripully, half way between Synigunta and Palmanair, they gave no trouble worth mentioning, and on this occasion they were promptly quieted by my placing in close custody one of their number, the most noisy of the lot.

6. In consequence of complaints made to me at Palmanair on the 10th of thefts committed by members of the gang on 30th and 31st ultimo, I considered it advisable to search them.

7. Owing to their practice of burying valuables, the search to be at all effectual had to be made while they were actually on the march, so on Friday morning I started them off, and let them move until they had reached a convenient open place, and then stopped them, and thoroughly searched their persons and their baggage.

8. I found a considerable amount of gold and silver money (sovereigns, mohurs and rupees), a good deal of silver jewellery and some gold jewellery, the latter consisting almost entirely of necklaces made of gold coins.

9. Large quantities of their stock-in-trade—pieces of coloured glass, cut to imitate gems, strings of false pearls in cardboard boxes, labelled, "perles lustres" glass beads, and some pieces of cornelian were also found, with here and there a pot of pomatum or a bit of soap. The latter article is evidently used by these people only very occasionally, for they have a most unpleasant smell.

10. No property was found of the description of that said to have been stolen near Palmanair, and, with the exception of one article, I had no suspicion regarding any of the jewellery found. The exception was a gold bangle found upon the person of an old woman. It was bent up, but not disfigured (it could be straightened out with the finger), and did not consider it necessary or advisable to seize this or any of the other property, as such a step would have necessitated the detention of the whole gang.

11. The arms of the gang consisted of a double-barrelled gun, a single-barrelled rifle, an ancient matchlock, and four daggers.

12. I must not omit to mention that bunches of keys were found in some of the bundles. These they were taking home, intending to make locks for them on their arrival there! I had great doubts as to the advisability of permitting them to retain possession of these keys, but eventually decided not to seize them.

52 men.
45 women.
72 children.

13. I note the strength of the gang in the margin. It is made up of four distinct gangs, or portions of four gangs. One of these gangs is that which passed through the district in November last, regarding which you addressed Government.

14. In unguarded moments they spoke of the men in custody in Madras and at Cuddapah as their people, and seemed to be thoroughly informed of all that had befallen them.

15. They call themselves natives of a place called Cashmere in Beluchistan, but I think they are a very mixed lot; some are certainly natives of India; and judging from their pronunciation of Hindustani, I should say that many of them have either never left the Deccan, or have resided there for many years. They look upon Hyderabad as their country —"once across the Kistna and we are at home" they frequently said.

16. Until I visited Palmanair I had not the faintest conception of the panic caused by the visit of this gang at the end of the last month. On their arrival they let their ponies loose in the fields, resisting by threats or violence all attempts to drive away or impound them.

17. Parties of ten or twelve went out to forage and trade, the women forcing their way into houses, while the men, armed with long bamboos, stood outside.

18. Altogether four cases of thefts from houses were reported to me on the 10th as having been committed by members of the gang on the 30th and 31st ultimo, and in one of these cases entry was effected by breaking the lock of a door. The inhabitants were afraid to resist them, and the police were not sufficiently numerous to follow and keep in check the various parties into which the gang broke itself up.

19. I do hope that you will strongly and earnestly represent to Government the necessity of enforcing the provisions of Sections 14 and 15 of the Foreigners Act as regards these people. Their presence, even in small parties, is a nuisance; in large gangs, they are manageable only when placed under close restraint; and even granting their ostensible trade to be a legitimate one, it supplies no want.

20. At Palmanair a small Mussalman boy, aged about ten, was turned out of their camp by these Heratees. He states that he is an orphan, that he joined the gang voluntarily at Vellore last November, and that he has been turned out because he had not proved a useful recruit, and would not learn to steal. Enquiries are being made about him; in the meantime the Reserve Inspector is taking care of the lad.

Progs. No. 202.

ORDER THEREON.

COPY of this letter will be communicated to all Magistrates of Districts who have already been informed very recently that such gangs are to be required to turn back, and that on their refusing or delaying to do so they are to be detained, pending the result of an application to Government to put Section 4 of the Act formally in force against them.

(True Extract.)

D. F. CARMICHAEL,

Acting Chief Secretary to the Govt. of Madras.

Progs. No. 222.

Extract from the Proceedings of the Government of Madras in the Judicial Department,—No. 461, *dated Fort St. George, the* 26*th February* 1875.

READ the following letters :

No. 8621—43, dated Bangalore, the 24th February 1875.

From—H. W. WELLESLEY, Esq., Secretary to the Chief Commissioner of Mysore.

To—The Acting Chief Secretary to the Government of Madras.

ADVERTING to paragraph 3 of the letter from the Magistrate of North Arcot to your address, dated 2nd February 1875, No. 6, copy of which was enclosed in your letter No. 238 of the 3rd idem, I am directed to forward copy of a communication from the Commissioner of Nandydroog, No. 17 J of the 19th instant, and its enclosures, from which it appears that the authorities of the Kolar District did not neglect the precaution of informing the police of North Arcot that the gang of Heratees was about to return from Mysore into Her Majesty's territory.

2. With reference to your letter to the Officiating Chief Commissioner of the 19th instant, No. 390, I am to state that, immediately on receipt of your telegram of the same date, the Officiating Chief Commissioner, who has throughout been desirous of acting in conformity with the wishes of His Excellency in Council, issued orders that the route originally proposed, when the wishes of the gang and their precise destination were unknown, viz., that *viá* Bellary, should be adhered to, and this order is now being carried out. I am further to explain that, in the absence of any declared intention of His Excellency in Council as to the particular route which it was desirable that the gang should take, Mr. Gordon did not feel justified in refusing to allow them, hampered as they are with women and children, to proceed by the shortest route by which they had come and by which they desired to return.

No. 17 J, dated Bangalore, the 19th February 1875.

From—J. L. PEARSE, Esq., Commissioner, Nandydroog Division.

To—The Secretary to the Chief Commissioner of Mysore.

WITH reference to your No. 7966—133 of the 4th instant, I have the honour to submit, for the information of the Chief Commissioner, copy of letter No. 2248—888 of the 8th instant, and of its enclosures, from the Deputy Commissioner of Kolar, and to state that it is clear that the necessary intimation was given to the North Arcot Police, and I think therefore that the fact may with advantage be notified to the Madras Government.

No. 2248—888, dated Kolar, the 8th February 1875.

From—B. Krishnaiengar, Deputy Commissioner, Kolar District.

To—The Commissioner of the Nandydroog Division.

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of the Chief Commissioner's Proceedings No. 7966—133 J of the 4th instant, requesting me to explain through you why I sent a gang of Heratees across the frontier into the North Arcot District without giving notice to the Madras authorities.

2. In reply, I beg to state that the gang arrived in this district on the 23rd ultimo from the Bangalore District. On arrival at head quarters the headmen intimated their intention to proceed in the direction of the North Arcot District, upon which Mr. Ramaiya Naidu, my Police Assistant Commissioner, directed that they must all leave in a gang as they left the Bangalore District, and that they will on no account be permitted to disperse in different directions. Upon their consenting to this arrangement Mr. Ramaiya Naidu lost no time in addressing the Superintendent of Police, North Arcot District, intimating that the Heratees will leave this on the 25th and arrive at the frontier about the 29th ultimo. A copy of this letter No. 2153—1287, of the 24th January 1875, is herewith submitted for your information, from which it will be observed that all needful precautions were taken in this district, and no time was lost in advising the police of the North Arcot District of the movements of the gang.

No. 2153—1287, dated Kolar, the 24th January 1875.

From—J. Ramaiya Naidu, Assistant Commissioner of Police, Kolar District.

To—The Superintendent of Police, North Arcot.

I have the honour to intimate that some 150 Heratees arrived here yesterday, coming from the direction of Bangalore.

2. They will leave this to-morrow and proceed by Moolbagal and Nangaly to Punganur, Nellore and Nagore.

3. The gang consists of 150 men, women and children, and a like number of ponies, and the names of the leaders or jemadars under whom the gang is travelling are one Wahid Ali Khan, one Koorban Ali Khan, and one Nazr Khan.

4. The gang will probably arrive at Nangaly on the 29th instant.

5. Two sowars and one duffadar and six peons are proceeding in charge of the gang, who, I request, may be relieved at Nangaly, the frontier of this district.

Progs. No. 223.

ORDER THEREON.

To—The Chief Commissioner of Mysore.

IN reply to your letter of 24th February instant, No. 8621—43, I am directed to convey to you the acknowledgements of His Excellency in Council for complying with his request to send back the Heratees to Bellary through Mysore territory.

2. As the instructions of the Government of India require all Magistrates of British Indian districts to march back all such gangs, it is suggested that the action of the Mysore authorities in escorting these men into North Arcot could not be otherwise than highly embarrassing.

(True Extract.)

D. F. CARMICHAEL,

Acting Chief Secretary to the Govt. of Madras.

Progs. No. 224.

Extract from the Proceedings of the Government of Madras in the Judicial Department,—No. 467, *dated Fort St. George, the* 27*th February* 1875.

READ the following letter :

No. 1, dated Proddatur, the 23rd February 1875.

From—W. D. HORSLEY, Esq., Magistrate of Cuddapah.

To—The Acting Chief Secretary to the Govt. of Madras.

A GANG of foreigners—forty-one men, women and children—have been brought before me on a charge of possessing stolen property. I have discharged them. The question now is what is to be done with them. They are clearly connected with the gang lately arrested in Madras, but to what country they belong I cannot for certain say. They call themselves Patans of Cashmere. They are generally called Heratees. They are inclined to give trouble, and I propose to keep them under police surveillance in Cuddapah until the Heratees, regarding whom the Government have lately been corresponding with the Mysore Government, arrive from Mysore, when that and this gang may be escorted together by the police to Kurnool on their way North. They possess a license from the Magistrate of the Kistna District to carry arms to Madras.

2. I request that the orders of Government may be conveyed to me as soon as possible.

Progs. No. 225.

ORDER THEREON.

THE gang should be sent through British territory (as it came that way) across the Kistna as proposed; but the larger gang mentioned by the Magistrate has now been sent to Bellary through the Mysore country by the Chief Commissioner.

2. The Magistrate of the Kistna District will be desired to explain why he gave these people leave to carry arms.

(True Extract.)

D. F. CARMICHAEL,

Acting Chief Secretary to the Govt. of Madras.

Progs. No. 25.

Extract from the Proceedings of the Government of Madras in the Judicial Department,—No. 762, *dated Fort St. George, the 2nd April* 1875.

READ the following:

No. 1617, dated Coonoor, the 27th March 1875.

From—Lieutenant-Colonel C. S. HEARN, Inspector General of Police, Madras.

To—The Chief Secretary to the Government of Madras.

I HAVE the honour to submit, for the information of Government, a further communication from the Superintendent of Police, Bellary, regarding the gangs of Heratees recently handed over by the Mysore authorities to be marched through Bellary to Hyderabad. The Hyderabad authorities appear to be unaware why these gangs are passed into their territory, or whither they should proceed.

2. It would seem desirable that joint action should be taken by the different Governments and Native Rulers to prevent the incursions of these gangs into Southern India, or into any part of British territory, the lawless nature of their proceedings being now so fully exposed. I may mention that Colonel Younghusband, C. S. I., the Inspector General of Police in the Punjab, has recently written to the Superintendent of Police, Cuddapah, regarding the property found with the gang in that district, some of which, he has reason to think, may have been stolen in the Punjab. This favours the supposition that these gangs proceed from the countries beyond the North-Western frontier of British India.

No. 94—197, dated Bellary, the 19th March 1875.

From—Captain R. G. BRIGGS, Acting Superintendent of Police, Bellary.

To—The Inspector General of Police, Madras.

I RECEIVED yesterday from the District Magistrate of Bellary the enclosed copy of letter No. 4225 of the 13th instant, from the First Assistant Resident, Hyderabad (Deccan), which I have the honour to forward for your information, as it appears to me that His Highness the Nizam's Government are unaware of the circumstances under which the Heratees alluded to (those referred to in G. O. No. 270, dated 6th February 1875) are being deported from British territory, and it is evidently most desirable that no misunderstanding should exist which would put it in the power of the Sadr Taluqdar of Gulburgah, or other officer, to misunderstand the direction in which the Government wish the gang referred to be despatched.

2. This information appears to me to be applied for in the second paragraph of the First Assistant Resident's letter; and as I hope that the gangs will reach the frontier of His Highness the Nizam's territory by the end of this month, it seems desirable that the orders of Government should at once be communicated to the authorities at Hyderabad.

3. The tax on the police in guarding these turbulent, self-willed Heratees is very great, and the escort is necessarily furnished at the expense of localities from which the party of police has been drawn.

4. Under these circumstances I have ventured to communicate this correspondence to avoid the delay which might otherwise ensue.

No. 4225, dated Hyderabad, the 13th March 1875.

From—Major W. TWEEDIE, First Assistant Resident at Hyderabad.

To—The Magistrate of Bellary.

WITH reference to your letter No. 93, dated 20th ultimo, requesting that arrangements might be made by His Highness the Nizam's Government for receiving charge and passing on through His Highness' territory a wandering tribe of Heratees, who are to be sent off to the frontier to the North, I am to inform you that the Sadr Taluqdar of Gulburgah has been directed by His Highness' Government to detail a sufficient police detachment, under an intelligent officer, to receive charge of the party at Sirguppah, and escort them through His Highness' territory to the British frontier.

2. As your letter and enclosure under reply, however, contain no information as to the destination of the men referred to, or the particular British authority to whom they should be made over by His Highness the Nizam's Police, you are requested to be good enough to cause this information to be supplied to the latter on the Heratees being handed over to them at Sirguppah by the Bellary Police, giving the necessary

notice to the British authority on the frontier, as well as to this Office, with a view to such further action being taken in the matter as may be deemed requisite.

Dated the 17th March 1875.

Endorsed by the Magistrate of Bellary.

FORWARDED to the District Superintendent of Police with an intimation that the Resident at Hyderabad has been informed that the Nizam's Government must issue orders as to the further march of the Heratees.

Progs. No. 26.

ORDER THEREON.

ORDERED that copy of the correspondence relative to these Heratees be at once forwarded to the Resident at Hyderabad in explanation of the course which has been adopted, and in view to the same principle of sending these bands back whence they came being carried out in His Highness the Nizam's territory.

(True Extract.)

W. HUDLESTON,

Chief Secretary to the Government of Madras.

Progs. No. 27.

No. 763, dated Fort St. George, the 2nd April 1875.

From—The Honourable W. HUDLESTON, Chief Secretary to the Government of Madras.

To—The Resident at Hyderabad.

I AM directed to forward the enclosed copy of the Proceedings of this Government dated the 2nd instant, No. 762, together with copies of the papers noted at foot, in explanation of the course which has been adopted in this Presidency in sending the Heratees alluded to in the direction of their own country, and in view to the same principle being carried out in His Highness the Nizam's territory :

Proceedings dated	2nd	February 1875,	Nos. 35 to 37.
Ditto	3rd	ditto	Nos. 53 to 54 A.
Ditto	6th	ditto	Nos. 70 & 71.
Ditto	8th	ditto	Nos. 71 A & 71 B.
Ditto	19th	ditto	Nos. 163 & 164.
Ditto	24th	ditto	Nos. 199 & 200.
Ditto	24th	ditto	Nos. 201 & 202.
Ditto	26th	ditto	Nos. 222 & 223.
Ditto	27th	ditto	Nos. 224 & 225.

Progs. No. 61.

Extract from the Proceedings of the Government of Madras in the Judicial Department,—No. 1112, *dated Fort St. George, the* 8*th May* 1875.

READ the following:

No. 1983, dated Ootacamund, the 17th April 1875.

From—Lieutenant-Colonel C. S. HEARN, Inspector General of Police, Madras.

To—The Chief Secretary to the Government of Madras.

I HAVE the honour to forward, for the information of Government, a report from the Superintendent of Police, Bellary, regarding the escort of the Heratee gangs from Mysore through the district, and their delivery to the Hyderabad authorities. I propose to pass batta to the police officers composing the escort.

No. 131—239, dated Bellary, the 8th April 1875.

From—Captain R. G. BRIGGS, Superintendent of Police, Bellary.

To—The Deputy Inspector General of Police, Central Range.

As directed in endorsement No. 1642 of Assistant Inspector General of Police on G. O. No. 673 of 20th ultimo, I have the honour to report that the gang therein alluded to, under the leadership of Vyat Ali Khan, entered this district at Kodoor on the 9th March 1875. No list nor descriptive roll was handed over to us by the Mysore escort.

2. The Assistant Superintendent, Mr. Goodrich, happened to be close to the point at which the gang entered, and from the accounts which he received of a quarrel between two sections of the party, he considered it advisable to separate them, and to keep Vyat Ali Khan's gang a march ahead of the other which was under Asker Khan.

3. The two parties had had a fight near Kolar in the Mysore territory, and several of them had to be carried on account of the wounds which they then received. The gang under Asker Khan expressed their dread of being assaulted again by the other unless they were kept apart.

4. The first party reached Anantapur on the 20th ultimo, where they were permitted to halt for two days to bury a child which died there.

5. The Assistant Superintendent found them most averse to take the route laid down; in fact they absolutely refused at first to go otherwise than by Ghooty, but, after considerable demur, they proceeded up by the Bellary Road.

6. Their route, as laid down by me, led outside Bellary, as it was ordered by Government that they should be marched directly North, and in any case it was advisable that they should not come in here.

7. In the early stages of their march through they travelled slowly on account of their wounded; thus, with stoppages, they were eight days later in reaching the confines of the district than was originally intended.

8. They were with great difficulty prevented from extorting supplies from the villagers; each gang was, however, closely guarded, and their supplies were brought to them and issued on payment.

9. Inspector Schmidt had the supervision of both gangs, Divisional Inspectors relieving each other with the second party. This duty was well performed.

10. Vyat Ali Khan, who is the leading spirit amongst them, did his best to give trouble: without this person they would have been much more manageable; he became their head about three years ago, supplanting Asker Khan, who had till then been their chief.

11. At each stage they purchased thirty or forty fowls and a sheep, and it required the personal supervision of Inspectors to prevent their swindling the villagers.

12. Vyat Ali Khan's party, as well as the other, appeared to be quite familiar with the country; in fact they gave out that they had visited it all in twos and threes, and remarked that travelling in gangs was a mistake, as it attracted attention.

13. At Koodair, notwithstanding all precautions, they wilfully set their cattle to trespass on the crops, for which the villagers very properly gave some of their numbers a hearty thrashing, which had a most subduing effect on them.

14. They were made over, one on the 2nd and the other on the 4th, to the Nizam's escorts, who stated that they were ordered to take them to Ahmedabad. Asker Khan's gang, however, objecting, the officer in charge complied with their wish to be taken to Hyderabad (Deccan).

15. As soon as they were in the Hyderabad territory they threatened the head of a village that they would *loot* it (this was at the instigation of Vyat Ali Khan as usual) unless they presented them with a sheep and five Rupees, which the villagers thereupon paid to them.

16. Vyat Ali Khan's gang is believed to be told off into three parties already, with a view to early return to the Madras Presidency; they all give out unhesitatingly that they mean to work back in a few months in twos and threes, and evidently calculate on shortly being set at large to go where they like.

17. I would respectfully suggest that, should they return as threatened, they be returned by rail at their own charge.

18. A large body of police has had to be in constant attendance on them in this district from the 9th March to the 4th April 1875; they would never agree to start till 9 o'clock, and gave incessant annoyance by letting their cattle stray, and by trying to stop at every village they came to.

19. I propose forwarding a bill for the expenses to which Inspector Schmidt and the escort have been put, in which opposite each individual the number of days he was absent from his station will be shown, and I would strongly recommend that batta, at the rate allowed to witnesses, may be granted to the officers composing the escort. The sub-division men were relieved at Ooravukonda; but they especially were put to great inconvenience owing to the late notice given by the Mysore authorities of the change of route,—*vide* my letter No. 84—185, dated 13th March 1875—and had no time to make any preparations for the journey. Inspector Schmidt had to hire a bandy to carry his tent, without which he would have had no means whatever of shelter, and all the party had a great deal of exposure and a most harassing duty to perform.

20. The escort,* though it may at first sight appear large, was not more than these turbulent unruly persons required.

* From sub-division.—Two Inspectors, 4 head constables, 35 constables.
Relieved by main division.—One Inspector, 5 head constables, 24 constables.

Progs. No. 65.

ORDER THEREON.

ORDERED to be communicated to the Resident at Hyderabad with the request that the Government of His Highness the Nizam may be requested to co-operate effectively with the British authorities in carrying out the instructions of the Supreme Government that these disorderly wandering bands shall be compelled to return to their own country, under police surveillance, by the nearest route, and not permitted to range the country.

The papers will be communicated to the Mysore authorities and submitted to the Government of India for information.

(True Extract.)

D. F. CARMICHAEL,

Offg. Chief Secretary to the Govt. of Madras.

No. 1695, dated Simla, the 7th October 1875.

From—ARTHUR HOWELL, Esq., Offg. Secretary to the Government of India, Home Department.

To—The Secretary to the Government of Bombay.

I AM directed to acknowledge your letters noted on the margin regarding the gang of vagrants who were lately deported from the Bombay Presidency.

No. 3127, dated 28th May 1875.
No. 3275, do. 8th June 1875.
No. 3430, do. 16th June 1875.
No. 3737, do. 30th June 1875.

2. In the last of those letters authority was requested to send to Allahabad certain persons represented to belong to the gang. And it

appears that the persons in question profess to be, with one exception, British subjects and natives of Sialkot.

3. In reply, I am to observe that the case of these persons differs from that of the men deported from the Bombay Presidency. The latter are foreigners as defined in Act III. of 1864, whose removal to their country is regulated by the provisions of that Act, and by Home Department orders Nos. 72—4547 to 4553, dated 12th November 1868. But this Act is not applicable to British subjects. It does not seem necessary, however, that Government should be put to any expense in the case of such persons who should be allowed to find their way to their homes as best they can, and be warned that unless they do so they will be dealt with as vagrants under the Code of Criminal Procedure.

4. With regard to your letter of the 16th June, requesting that the sums realized by the sale of the ponies belonging to the party of vagrants deported to Cashmere may be restored to the owners, I am to say that this will be done if the Bombay Government can say to what official the money should be paid.

No. 1696, dated Simla, the 7th October 1875.

From—Arthur Howell, Esq., Offg. Secretary to the Government of India, Home Department.

To—The Secretary to the Government of Madras.

I am directed to acknowledge your letter No. 1390, dated 21st June last, explaining the circumstances under which certain gangs of foreigners entered the Madras Presidency, and were deported thence in the direction of their homes under the provisions of Act III. of 1864, and Home Department Resolution Nos. 72—4547 to 4553, dated 12th November 1868.

2. In reply, I am to say that in cases of this kind it would be well for such gangs to be conveyed by railway to the terminus nearest their homes, and thus no trouble would be given to any authority, foreign or British, through whose territories they pass.

3. It may sometimes of course be unavoidable to send such gangs through Native States. But whenever practicable it is preferable to deport them entirely through British territory; for as soon as they enter Native territory any legal hold on them ceases, and Native States are not always able to control formidable bands of unruly foreigners.

No. 1697.

From Bombay Government No. 3127, dated 28th May; No. 3275, dated 8th June; No. 3430, dated 16th June; and No. 3737, dated 30th idem.

To Bombay Government No. 1695, dated 7th instant.

Copy of the above, of the letter to which it is a reply, and of the correspondence noted on the margin, forwarded to the Foreign Department for information.

No. 6315, dated Bombay Castle, the 22nd October 1875.

From—W. LEEWARNER, Esq., Acting Under Secretary to the Government of Bombay, Judicial Department.

To—The Officiating Secretary to the Government of India, Home Department.

I AM directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter No. 1695 of the 7th instant, and, with reference to paragraph 3 thereof, to state that the party of Sialkot vagrants and the boy belonging to Allahabad were received with the gang of other vagrants transported into the Sholapur District of the Bombay Presidency from Madras through the territory of His Highness the Nizam. As it was advisable to get rid of the whole party at once owing to the Agrarian disturbances which prevailed in the neighbouring districts, the foreign vagrants were at once deported, and the Government of India were addressed on 30th June, with a view to sanction being accorded to remove the Sialkot party to Allahabad by rail. Pending receipt of the orders of the Government of India on that communication these vagrants have been detained at the public expense at Sholapur.

2. As, however, the Government of India have now expressed an objection to the deportation of the party at the expense of Government, the course suggested in the 3rd paragraph of your letter will be followed, and the Allahabad lad will also be directed to go to his Native country.

3. In your fourth paragraph you state that the money realized by the sale of the tattoos will be paid to the owners if the Bombay Government can say to what official the money should be paid. I am to observe that the Government of India are in possession of all the particulars. A nominal roll of the foreign vagrants was sent with the party to Allahabad and handed over to the authorities there. With my letter No. 3430, dated 16th June 1875, was sent a memorandum showing the name of each owner and the amount realized by the sale of his tattoo. A comparison of the two papers will enable any officer to identify the parties to whom the money should be paid.

No. 976 A, dated Naini Tal, the 7th August 1877.

From—C. ROBERTSON, Esq., Offg. Secretary to the Government of the North-Western Provinces and Oudh.

To—The Offg. Secretary to the Government of India, Home Dept.

Letter from Magistate, Banda, No. 689, dated 22nd July last.
G. O. to Magistrate, Banda, No. 926 A, dated 26th idem.
D. O. from Magistrate, Banda, dated 23rd idem, with enclosure.
Reply from Magistrate, Banda, dated 29th idem.
G. O. to Magistrate, Banda, No. 975 A of this date.

I AM directed to submit, for the consideration of His Excellency the Governor General in Council, a copy of the correspondence specified on the margin regarding a band of Biluchis found wandering in the Banda District.

2. It will be seen that the orders of His Excellency in Council, as conveyed in Home Department circular No. 72—4550, dated 12th November 1868, have apparently been contravened by the grant of parwanas and licenses to these foreigners by some officers in the territories, British and Native, through which they passed before reaching Banda.

No. 689, dated Banda, the 22nd July 1877.

From—M. A. McCONAGHEY, Esq., Offg. Magistrate of Banda.

To—The Offg. Secretary to the Government of the North-Western Provinces and Oudh.

WITH reference to a demi-official letter received from the Inspector General of Police (received last night) I have the honour to report that the foreigners alluded to in the Superintendent's letter have been already dealt with according to instructions laid down in Government of India letter No. 72—4550, dated 12th November 1868.

2. The foreigners are Beluchis from beyond Mokhran, not Kokanis as was at first thought. They pretend to be dealers in artificial gems, but really are a band of petty plunderers, and tally exactly with the description given in the Inspector General's demi-official above noted.

3. In my opinion it would be very impolitic to allow them to wander on as they have been doing, either in our territory, or in the neighbouring Native States where they now wish to go.

4. On the 17th and 18th I received numerous complaints of their demanding money and food from zemindars and baniyas, and using threats if their demands were not complied with. The people generally became disturbed, and various absurd rumours got afloat. Some said they were Russian spies, and others would have it that they were the remnant of the Russian Army defeated and driven out of Armenia.

5. The Tahsildar of Girivan, who came to see me on the 18th, confirmed the existence of the above rumours, but said that during the stay of the Beluchis near his tahsil they were generally peaceable, although the people still stood in great terror of them, and kept at home in their villages instead of working in their fields. I sent the Tahsildar at once back to his tahsil with instructions to forward these men on to Banda, peacefully if possible, reporting at once to me if they refused to come or showed any sign of resistance.

6. Next day the two leaders of the band—Sirdar Khan and Bahadur Khan—appeared in Banda and were brought to me. They gave themselves out as gem merchants and sellers of ponies, and shewed me numerous parwanas, at the same time expressing themselves ready to behave peacefully and conform to the manners of the place.

7. The next morning they went about the city and had collected some money from the inhabitants, when I was informed that they had gone to the house of Sham Karan, the principal Seth of the city, and had

demanded with threats food for 300 men, stating that they had obtained Rs. 125 from me, the Collector. I at once proceeded with the Superintendent of the Police to the Seth's house, but found that the men had left, leaving a message that they would return again in about two hours' time. We tracked them up and arrested them without trouble. Instructions were given to the Banda Sub-Inspector to go with a sufficient body of police to bring in the rest of the gang. These were quietly brought in yesterday morning, and are located for the present outside the city at the Nawab's tank. They are kept under close surveillance, and are not allowed to enter the city or wander about.

8. The arms they had with them, for carrying which they had received licenses from time to time, consisted of two double-barrelled and one single-barrelled rifle, all English make, and also a sword. These with their parwanas have been taken away from them, and are in safe custody.

9. In conclusion, I will solicit the orders of Government regarding the disposal of these men, who will be kept here in the meantime agreeably to the instructions received. I would here note that the total number of the gang at a rough guess is about 60 or 70. Correct returns, however, will be sent by to-morrow's post.

10. Copy of this letter is forwarded to the Commissioner for his information.

No. 926 A, dated Naini Tal, the 26th July 1877.

From—C. Robertson, Esq., Offg. Secretary to the Government of the North-Western Provinces and Oudh.

To—The Officiating Magistrate of Banda.

In acknowledging your letter No. 689, dated 22nd July, regarding a wandering band of Beluchis, I am directed to request that you will ascertain by what route and when these men entered India, and with whose parwana or passport they have come into the Banda District; also, judging by the parwanas they possess, what appears to have been the course of their wanderings. I am also to enquire what property they have with them.

Dated 23rd July 1877.

Demi-official from—M. A. McConaghey, Esq., Offg. Magistrate of Banda.

To—The Offg. Secretary to the Government of the North-Western Provinces and Oudh.

I enclose a census of the Beluchis which I promised in my official report of yesterday. Please shew the report to Tyrwhitt. I am very busy clearing up everything before I leave to-morrow. Cadell will turn up, I hope, by noon to-day.

List and descriptive roll of Beluchis.

I.—MALES.

	Names.			Age. Years.	Description.
1.	Sheir Mohomed Khan	Jemadars.	...	40	None of these men have been described in the Urdu list. I. A. B.
2.	Bahadur Khan ...	Jemadars.	...	35	
3.	Bahadur Khan (second)	Jemadars.	...	40	
4.	Sirdar Khan ...	Jemadars.	...	40	
5.	Saiad Ibrahim		...	40	
6.	Kur Khan ...		...	25	
7.	Kaka Kur Khan ...		...	30	
8.	Kurkjû ...		...	18	
9.	Salam ...		...	25	
10.	Saiad Roza ...		...	50	
11.	Said Mehdi ...		...	28	
12.	Said Mahomed Roza		...	26	
13.	Shah Mohomed ...		...	40	
14.	Kashim Khan ...		...	22	
15.	Waziruddin ...		...	16	
16.	Shah Morad ...		...	45	
17.	Zarguni ...		...	20	
18.	Ali Roza ...		...	26	
19.	Gujani Khan ...		...	16	
20.	Golam Ali ...		...	16	
21.	Gul Shâl ...		...	25	
22.	Mohomed ...		...	20	

II.—FEMALES.

Age.			Number.
24. 14 years old	...	...	... 2
28. 20 ditto	...	...	... 4
30. 16 ditto	...	...	... 2
34. 30 ditto	...	...	... 4
38. 25 ditto	...	...	... 4
42. 40 ditto	...	...	... 4

65.—III.—Male children, boys, 23.

76.—IV.—Girls, 11.

Males	...	...	... 22
Females	...	...	... 20
Boys	...	...	... 23
Girls	..	...	... 11
		GRAND TOTAL	... 76

IRFAN A. B.,

Sub-Inspector.

Dated Banda, the 29th July 1877.

From—A. CADELL, Esq., Offg. Magistrate of Banda.

To—The Offg. Secretary to the Government of the North-Western Provinces and Oudh.

IN reply to your letter No. 926, dated 26th instant, I have the honour to state that the wandering gang of Beluchis seems to have spent the hot weather of 1876 in the Central Provinces. They have two licenses to carry arms and one parwana from the Deputy Commissioner of Mandla, dated May 1876, and an arms license from the Deputy Commissioner of Nagpur dated June 1876. They have also a license from the Deputy Commissioner of Seoni, given in June 1876, three Urdu parwanas given in October, and two from Hoshangabad in November. Later they travelled about in Bhopal, in which State they got six parwanas, and were in Jubbulpore in May 1877, where they got a parwana from an Honorary Magistrate. From Jubbulpore they went on to Rewah, where they got two parwanas, one of them, dated the 4th June, from the Acting Agent, thence they came through other Native territory to Kalinjar.

The people say that they arrived in the Central Provinces *viâ* Hyderabad, Sind, thence by Deesa to Bhopal. They have also in their possession parwanas from officers in Bengal, received during a tour in that Province in 1871-72, during which they got as far as Chittagong, where they received a pass to Tipperah.

They value their property at Rs. 4,000. The live-stock in their possession is worth about Rs. 2,000 ; it is difficult to form an estimate of the value of false gems, but the estimate of the selling value of the property in the possession of the Beluchis is not in all probability exaggerated.

From this it will appear that these men do look to trade for a portion at least of their livelihood. The manner in which licenses have been granted to them tends to show that in other districts they have not done very much harm, and forms a certain presumption in their favour. But it is likely that until on this occasion they did not travel in so large a band, and the Rewah parwana was given for 25 persons and 25 horses. Had the limit been observed, they might very likely have passed through the district without giving much trouble, but the sudden appearance of over 60 uncouth-looking foreigners caused alarm, and in some cases actual panic, among an ignorant and credulous population. At first the Beluchis seem to have gone about in this district as sturdy beggars rather than as traders, but the complaints regarding them when examined in detail are not very serious. The vakil at Ajezarh reported to the Political Agent at Nowgong that they had extorted Rs. 3 from one large village. In Kalinjar there was a dispute about supplies, and the police reports state the danger of disturbance, rather than bring to notice offences actually committed. Even in Banda itself there was at first a distinct panic, and even men of position and general intelligence helped

to circulate the most absurd rumours regarding them. In a district inhabited by a peculiarly ignorant population there is of course the danger that so large a band may extort money, and there is perhaps a still greater danger that demands for alms in a village inhabited by a stout clan may lead to a serious affray. But all danger will, I think, be averted if these Beluchis are allowed to follow the route which they have selected, *viâ* Nowgong to the Central Provinces, where they are known, unarmed, in parties of moderate size, and under sufficient surveillance.

I have told them that whatever orders may be received from Government as to their destination, they will have to travel in smaller parties. To this they in no way demurred, and attribute the size of their band on this occasion to the fact that they had heard rumours of war and were afraid to travel in small parties as was their usual custom.

These Beluchis are people of only average physique; their leaders especially understand and speak Urdu, and are evidently well acquainted with the procedure of British courts. The only serious charge brought against them, that of attempting to extort money from a firm of Seths, is certainly not proved, and there is no sufficient ground for proceeding against the band or against any member of it.

Should Government approve of the course which it is proposed to adopt with reference to these people, I hope that you will telegraph orders to that effect.

No. 975 A, dated Naini Tal, the 7th August 1877.

From—C. Robertson, Esq., Offg. Secretary to the Government of the North-Western Provinces and Oudh.

To—The Offg. Magistrate of Banda.

In reply to your letter, without number, dated 29th July last, I am directed to say that, as already telegraphed to you, the band of Beluchis should be allowed to proceed in two or more parties by the selected route to the Central Provinces, *viâ* Nowgong, without arms, and under police surveillance while in British territory. A copy of these orders should be communicated to the Magistrate of the district on the route.

No. 1672, dated Simla, the 6th September 1877.

From—Arthur Howell, Esq., Offg. Secretary to the Government of India, Home Department.

To—The Chief Commissioner of the Central Provinces.

I am directed to forward a copy of the accompanying letter from the Government of the North-Western Provinces and Oudh No. 976, dated the 7th ultimo, with enclosures, in regard to a band of Beluchis

found wandering about the District of Banda, in the North-Western Provinces, and having in their possession passports and licenses from the officers named on the margin. These officers seem to have overlooked Home Department orders No. 110 of the 6th January 1866, and No. 72—4552, dated 12th November 1868, on the subject of the grant of passports to gangs of foreigners; and an explanation should be called for of the circumstances under which the Beluchis were authorized to wander about the Central Provinces and pass over to the North-Western Provinces.

Deputy Commissioner of Mandla.
Ditto ditto of Nagpur.
Ditto ditto of Seoni.
Ditto ditto of Hoshangabad.
Honorary Magistrate of Jubbulpore.
* * * *

2. The treatment of the Beluchi gang* will now depend upon their own behaviour. If they are orderly and well behaved, and earn their own livelihood, they may be left to themselves with the warning that any misconduct on their part will lead to their being deported from British India under the provisions of Act III. of 1864.

* Permitted by the North-Western Provinces and Oudh Government to proceed to the Central Provinces, *viâ* Nowgong, and without arms.

No. 1673.

Copy forwarded to the Government of the North-Western Provinces and Oudh for information with reference to their letter No. 976, dated the 7th ultimo.

No. 1674.

Copy of correspondence forwarded to the Foreign Department for information and for the issue of any further orders considered necessary, as the Officiating Political Agent at Rewah also appears to have granted a passport to these Beluchis.

No. 4428—165, dated Nagpur, the 3rd November 1877.

From—J. W. Chisholm, Esq., Offg. Secretary to the Chief Commissioner of the Central Provinces.

To—The Offg. Secretary to the Government of India, Home Department.

In reply to your letter No. 1672, dated 6th September, I am desired to state that the passports and licenses given by district officers in these Provinces to the gang of Beluchis who passed over eventually through Native States into the North-West Provinces are explained to have been issued generally in substitution of licenses already in their possession. The gang did not seem at the time to the local officers to require action being taken under the provisions of Act III.

of 1864, and the men were therefore allowed to retain possession of the arms which they held when they entered the districts of these Provinces and to pass on.

2. The Chief Commissioner considers that local officers too readly renew licenses to carry arms, and special attention was drawn to the orders of Government as to dealing with bands of foreigners* early in the year. The present orders will now be circulated for the further guidance of Deputy Commissioners. But it is difficult to deport a whole gang to their own country; and in the present instance the North-Western Government has simply allowed the Beluchi gang to return to the Central Provinces.

* Chief Commissioner's Book Circular No. IV. of 22nd February 1877.

3. The question is—What should be done with this gang when it returns? It is now clear that the members prey upon the people and extort money by threats. The Chief Commissioner would not, therefore, permit them to wander freely all over the Province; but if merely removed and passed *en route* to their own country through foreign territory, they would probably before long re-appear in some other Province. The only satisfactory arrangement with a gang of this kind is to deport them by a particular route, and to intimate to neighbouring authorities the course that has been adopted. The Chief Commissioner proposes hereafter to adopt this course with any gang of wandering foreigners who misconduct themselves in any of the districts of these Provinces under the instructions contained in paragraph 2 of your letter under reply.

4. In future it is hoped there will be no injudicious granting of passes or licenses to foreigners by any district officer in these Provinces. A copy of the Book Circular now being issued by the Chief Commissioner on this subject to all Deputy Commissioners is herewith forwarded for the information of Government.

BOOK CIRCULAR No. XXXIII.

Dated Nagpur, the 16th November 1877.

From—G. J. NICHOLLS, Esq., Officiating Secretary to the Chief Commissioner of the Central Provinces.

To—All Deputy Commissioners of the Central Provinces.

THE injudicious issue of passports and licenses to foreigners was interdicted in Book Circular No. IV. of 22nd February last, and in circulating the accompanying copy of a letter from the Secretary, Government of India, Home Department, No. 1672, dated 6th September, mentioning certain districts in which such passports seem to have been indiscriminately granted to a band of Beluchis, I am to state that the Chief Commissioner will take serious notice of carelessness in this matter on the part of local officers if again brought to his notice.

2. Special attention is drawn to paragraph 2 of this letter. Neither this Beluchi gang, nor any other band of foreigners, need be interfered with so long as the members conduct themselves peaceably and possess an ostensible means of livelihood. But immediately a district officer is satisfied that different members of the gang are preying upon the people and extorting money by threats or intimidation, as was frequently reported in the course of last year, he should take action at once, and apply under Section 3, Act III. of 1864, to have the gang removed from British India.

3. The last thing to be done with such a gang, in order to get rid of them, is to give them passports, because under cover of these the members merely commence their depredations in a new district.

4. The Chief Commissioner hopes that the measures now taken will prevent the people suffering from these wandering gangs of foreigners as in several districts they are reported to have done during past years.

No. 1672, dated Simla, the 6th September 1877.

From—ARTHUR HOWELL, Esq., Offg. Secretary to the Government of India, Home Department.

To—The Chief Commissioner of the Central Provinces.

I AM directed to forward a copy of the accompanying letter from the Government of the North-Western Provinces and Oudh No. 976 A, dated 7th ultimo, with enclosures, in regard to a band of Beluchis found wandering about the District of Banda, in the North-Western Provinces, and having in their possession passports and licenses from the officers named on the margin. These officers seem to have overlooked Home Department orders No. 110 of the 6th January 1866, and No. 72—4552, dated 12th November 1868, on the subject of the grant of passports to gangs of foreigners and an explanation should be called for of the circumstances under which the Beluchis were authorized to wander about the Central Provinces and pass over to the North-Western Provinces.

Deputy Commissioner of Mandla.
Ditto ditto of Nagpur.
Ditto ditto of Seoni.
Ditto ditto of Hoshangabad.
Honorary Magistrate of Jubbulpore.
* * *

2. The treatment of the Beluchi gang* will now depend upon their own behaviour. If they are orderly and well behaved, and earn their own livelihood, they may be left to themselves with the warning that any misconduct on their part will lead to their being deported from British India under the provisions of Act III. of 1864.

* Permitted by the North-Western Provinces and Oudh Government to proceed to the Central Provinces, *viâ* Nowgong, and without arms.

No. 976 A, dated Naini Tal, the 7th August 1877.

From—C. Robertson, Esq., Offg. Secretary to the Government of the North-Western Provinces and Oudh.

To—The Offg. Secretary to the Government of India, Home Department.

From Magistrate, Banda, No. 689, dated 22nd July last.
G. O. to Magistrate, Banda, No. 926 A, dated 26th idem.
D. O. from Magistrate, Banda, dated 23rd idem, with enclosure.
Reply from Magistrate, Banda, dated 29th idem.
G. O. to Magistrate, Banda, No. 975 A of this date.

I am directed to submit, for the consideration of His Excellency the Governor General in Council, a copy of the correspondence specified on the margin regarding a band of Beluchis found wandering in the Banda District.

2. It will be seen that the orders of His Excellency in Council, as conveyed in Home Department Circular No. 72—4550, dated 12th November 1868, have apparently been contravened by the grant of parwanas and licenses to these foreigners by some officers in the territories, British and Native, through which they passed before reaching Banda.

No. 689, dated Banda, the 22nd July 1877.

From—M. A. McConaghey, Esq., Offg. Magistrate of Banda.

To—The Offg. Secretary to the Government of the North-Western Provinces and Oudh.

With reference to a demi-official letter received from the Inspector General of Police, received last night, I have the honour to report that the foreigners alluded to in the Superintendent's letter have been already dealt with according to instructions laid down in Government of India letter No. 72—4550, dated 12th November 1868.

2. The foreigners are Beluchis from beyond Mokhran, not Kokanis as was at first thought. They pretend to be dealers in artificial gems, but really are a band of petty plunderers, and tally exactly with the description given in the Inspector General's demi-official above-noted.

3. In my opinion it would be very impolitic to allow them to wander on as they have been doing, either in our territory, or in the neighbouring Native States, where they now wish to go.

4. On the 17th and 18th I received numerous complaints of their demanding money and food from zemindars and baniyas, and using threats if their demands were not complied with. The people generally became disturbed, and various absurd rumours got afloat. Some said they were Russian spies, and others would have it that they were the remnant of the Russian Army defeated and driven out of Armenia.

5. The Tahsildar of Girivan, who came to see me on the 18th, confirmed the existence of the above rumours, but said that during the stay of the Beluchis near his tahsil they were generally peaceable, although the people still stood in great terror of them, and kept at home in their villages instead of working in their fields. I sent the Tahsildar at once back to his tahsil with instructions to forward these men on to Banda, peacefully if possible, reporting at once to me if they refused to come, or shewed any sign of resistance.

6. Next day the two leaders of the band—Sirdar Khan and Bahadur Khan—appeared in Banda and were brought to me. They gave themselves out as gem merchants and sellers of ponies, and showed me numerous parwanas, at the same time expressing themselves ready to behave peacefully and conform to the manners of the place.

7. The next morning they went about the city, and had collected some money from the inhabitants, when I was informed that they had gone to the house of Sham Karan, the principal Seth of the city, and had demanded with threats food for 300 men, stating that they had obtained Rs. 125 from me, the Collector. I at once proceeded with the Superintendent of the Police to the Seth's house, but found that the men had left, leaving a message that they would return again in about two hours' time. We tracked them up and arrested them without trouble. Instructions were given to the Banda Sub-Inspector to go with a sufficient body of police to bring in the rest of the gang. These were quietly brought in yesterday morning, and are located for the present outside the city at the Nawab's tank. They are kept under close surveillance, and are not allowed to enter the city or wander about.

8. The arms they had with them, for carrying which they had received licenses from time to time, consisted of two double-barrelled and one single-barrelled rifle, all English make, and also a sword. These with their parwanas have been taken away from them and are in safe custody.

9. In conclusion, I will solicit the orders of Government regarding the disposal of these men, who will be kept here in the meantime agreeably to the instructions received. I would here note that the total number of the gang at a rough guess is about 60 or 70. Correct returns, however, will be sent by to-morrow's post.

10. Copy of this letter is forwarded to the Chief Commissioner for his information.

No. 926 A, dated Naini Tal, the 26th July 1877.

From—C. Robertson, Esq., Offg. Secretary to the Government of the North-Western Provinces and Oudh.

To—The Officiating Magistrate of Banda.

In acknowledging your letter No. 689, dated 22nd July, regarding a wandering band of Beluchis, I am directed to request that you will

ascertain by what route and when these men entered in India, and with whose parwana or passport they have come into the Banda District; also, judging by the parwanas they possess, what appears to have been the course of their wanderings. I am also to enquire what property they have with them.

Dated the 23rd July 1877.

Demi-official from—M. A. McConaghey, Esq., Offg. Magistrate of Banda.

To—The Offg. Secretary to the Government of the North-Western Provinces and Oudh.

I enclose a census of the Beluchis which I promised in my official report of yesterday. Please shew the report to Tyrwhitt. I am very busy clearing up everything before I leave to-morrow. Cadell will turn up, I hope, by noon to-day.

List and descriptive roll of Beluchis.

I.—Males.

Names.		Age. Years.	Description.
1. Sheir Mohomed Khan	Jemadars.	40	None of these men have been described in the Urdu list. I. A. B.
2. Bahadur Khan	Jemadars.	35	
3. Bahadur Khan (second)	Jemadars.	40	
4. Sirdar Khan	Jemadars.	40	
5. Saiad Ibrahim		40	
6. Kur Khan		25	
7. Kaka Kur Khan		30	
8. Kurkjû		18	
9. Salam		25	
10. Saiad Roza		50	
11. Said Mehdi		28	
12. Said Mohomed Roza		26	
13. Shah Mohomed		40	
14. Kashim Khan		22	
15. Waziruddin		16	
16. Shah Morad		45	
17. Zarguni		20	
18. Ali Roza		26	
19. Gujani Khan		16	
20. Golam Ali		16	
21. Gul Shâl		25	
22. Mohomed		20	

II.—FEMALES.

	Age.		Number.
24.	14 years old	... ...	2
28.	20 ditto	... ...	4
30.	16 ditto	... ...	2
34.	30 ditto	... ...	4
38.	25 ditto	... ...	4
42.	40 ditto	... ...	4

65.—III.—Male children, boys, 23.

76.—IV.—Girls, 11.

ABSTRACT.

Males	... ...	22
Females	... ...	20
Boys	... ...	23
Girls	... ...	11
Grand Total	...	76

IRFAN A. B.,
Sub-Inspector.

Dated Banda, the 29th July 1877.

From—A. CADELL, Esq., Offg. Magistrate of Banda.

To—The Offg. Secretary to the Government of the North-Western Provinces and Oudh.

IN reply to your letter No. 926, dated 26th instant, I have the honour to state that the wandering gang of Beluchis seems to have spent the hot weather of 1876 in the Central Provinces. They have two licenses to carry arms and one parwana from the Deputy Commissioner of Mandla, dated May 1876, and an arms license from the Deputy Commissioner of Nagpur dated June 1876. They have also a license from the Deputy Commissioner of Seoni, given in June 1876, three Urdu parwanas given in October, and two from Hoshangabad in November. Later they travelled about in Bhopal, in which State they got six parwanas, and were in Jubbulpore in May 1877, where they got a parwana from an Honorary Magistrate. From Jubbulpore they went on to Rewah, where they got two parwanas, one of them, dated the 4th June, from the Acting Agent, thence they came through other Native territory to Kalinjar.

The people say that they arrived in the Central Provinces *viâ* Hyderabad, Sind, thence by Deesa to Bhopal. They have also in their possession parwanas from officers in Bengal, received during a tour in

that Province in 1871-72, during which they got as far as Chittagong, where they received a pass to Tipperah.

They valued their property at Rs. 4,000. The livestock in their possession is worth about Rs. 2,000; it is difficult to form an estimate of the value of false gems; but the estimate of the selling value of the property in the possession of the Beluchis is not in all probability exaggerated.

From this it will appear that these men do look to trade for a portion at least of their livelihood. The manner in which licenses have been granted to them tends to show that in other districts they have not done very much harm, and forms a certain presumption in their favour. But it is likely that until on this occasion they did not travel in so large a band, and the Rewah parwana was given for 25 persons and 25 horses. Had the limit been observed, they might very likely have passed through the district without giving much trouble, but the sudden appearance of over 60 uncouth-looking foreigners caused alarm, and in some cases actual panic, among an ignorant and credulous population. At first the Beluchis seem to have gone about in this district as sturdy beggars, rather than as traders, but the complaints regarding them when examined in detail are not very serious. The vakil at Ajezarh reported to the Political Agent at Nowgong that they had extorted Rs. 3 from one large village. In Kalinjar there was a dispute about supplies, and the police reports state the danger of disturbance, rather than bring to notice offences actually committed. Even in Banda itself there was at first a distinct panic, and even men of position and general intelligence helped to circulate the most absurd rumours regarding them. In a district inhabited by a peculiarly ignorant population there is of course the danger that so large a band may extort money, and there is perhaps a still greater danger that demands for alms in a village inhabited by a stout clan may lead to a serious affray. But all danger will, I think, be averted if these Beluchis are allowed to follow the route which they have selected, *viá* Nowgong, to the Central Provinces, where they are known, unarmed, in parties of moderate size and under sufficient surveillance.

I have told them that whatever orders may be received from Government as to their destination, they will have to travel in smaller parties. To this they in no way demurred, and attribute the size of their band on this occasion to the fact that they had heard rumours of war and were afraid to travel in small parties as was their usual custom.

These Beluchis are people of only average physique; their leaders especially understand and speak Urdu, and are evidently well acquainted with the procedure of British courts. The only serious charge brought against them, that of attempting to extort money from a firm of Seths, is certainly not proved, and there is no sufficient ground for proceeding against the band or against any member of it.

Should Government approve of the course which it is proposed to adopt with reference to these people, I hope that you will telegraph orders to that effect.

No. 975 A, dated Naini Tal, the 7th August 1877.

From—C. ROBERTSON, Esq., Offg. Secretary to the Government of the North-Western Provinces and Oudh.

To—The Offg. Magistrate of Banda.

IN reply to your letter without number, dated 29th July last, I am directed to say that, as already telegraphed to you, the band of Beluchis should be allowed to proceed in two or more parties by the selected route to the Central Provinces, *viâ* Nowgong, without arms, and under police surveillance, while in British territory. A copy of these orders should be communicated to the Magistrate of the district on the route.

No. 2262, dated Fort William, the 21st December 1877.

From—J. O'KINEALY, Esq., Offg. Secretary to the Government of India, Home Department.

To—The Chief Commissioner of the Central Provinces.

I AM directed to acknowledge your letter No. 4428—165, dated the 3rd ultimo, explaining the circumstances under which passports and licenses were given by district officers in the Central Provinces to a gang of Beluchis which passed eventually through Native States into the North-West Provinces.

2. In reply, I am to say that the Governor General in Council approves of the circular which you have issued in regard to the future granting of such passports or licenses by district officers, and of the course which you propose to adopt in the event of the return of the gang in question, or in future with any body of wandering foreigners who misconduct themselves in the Central Provinces, it being of course understood that if any distinct offence is brought home to any member of this or another gang, the offender will be dealt with according to law, and separately deported afterwards.

No. 2263.

COPY of correspondence* forwarded to the Government of the North-Western Provinces and Oudh for information in continuation of endorsement No. 1673, dated 6th September 1877.

* Letter from Chief Commissioner, Central Provinces, No. 4428—165, dated 3rd ultimo, and of this reply.

No. 22 G—63 R, dated Simla, the 11th October 1877.

From—Major-General H. D. DALY, Agent to the Governor General for Central India.

To—The Secretary to the Government of India, Foreign Dept.

WITH reference to your No. 2717 G of 27th ultimo, I have the honour to submit a report* from Major Bannerman, Political Agent

* No. 578, dated 8th October 1877.

in Baghelkhund, of what took place respecting the passage of a gang of Beluchis or Heratees through his agency in June last.

2. Major Bannerman, who was at the time absent on leave, correctly states that without perwanas people of this description would be unable to obtain food supplies in Native States, and the object of the perwana was to get rid of them as soon as possible.

No. 578, dated Baghelkhund Agency, the 8th October 1877.

From—Major P. W. BANNERMAN, Political Agent, Baghelkhund.

To—The Agent to the Governor General for Central India.

IN acknowledging the receipt of your docket No. 124 of 29th ultimo, with its enclosures, in regard to a band of Beluchis found wandering about the District of Banda, in the North-Western Provinces, I have the honour to report that on a reference to my Office records I find that the District Superintendent of Police, Jubbulpore, intimated to the Officiating Political Agent (April and May 1877.) that three gangs of Heratees had left for Allahabad under a police guard, and requested that the latter might be relieved at Jukchi or Maikar.

2. It not being deemed desirable to allow these men to remain in Rewah Territory, where there were already sufficient elements of disorder, the Officiating Political Agent directed perwanas to be granted them in order that they might obtain supplies on payment from *the village authorities in the Native States under this Agency*, as without such perwanas the villagers were certain to refuse to allow them to purchase, and such refusal would undoubtedly end in a disturbance.

3. The Mir Munshi of the Agency Office was absent, and the Naib Munshi, a man of little experience, worded the perwanas so as to have general application; whereas the Officiating Political Agent's distinct intention was to *limit them to the Agency*, and to ensure the Beluchis getting through it without molestation.

No. 3429 G, dated Fort William, the 12th December 1877.

From—T. J. CHICHELE PLOWDEN, Esq., Offg. Under Secretary to the Government of India, Foreign Dept.

To—The Agent to the Governor General for Central India.

I AM directed to acknowledge your letter No. 22 G—63 R, dated 11th October 1877, and enclosure, explaining the circumstances under which perwanas were granted by the Political Agent, Baghelkhund, to a wandering gang of Beluchis or Heratees passing through his Agency in June last.

2. In reply, I am to say that, in the opinion of the Governor General in Council, no perwanas should have been granted to these

Heratees. It would have been sufficient to have deputed an officer to shew them the way out of Native territory, and this is the course which should be adopted in future. Perwanas granted to these gangs are sure to be abused.

No. 3480 G.

COPY of correspondence forwarded to the Home Department for information with reference to the endorsement thence No. 1674, dated 6th September 1877.

No. 25, dated Fort William, the 4th January 1878.

Endorsed by the Home Department.

COPY forwarded to the Chief Commissioner of the Central Provinces for information in continuation of letter No. 2262, dated 21st December 1877.

No. 26.

COPY forwarded to the Government of the North-Western Provinces and Oudh for information in continuation of endorsement No. 2263, dated 21st December 1877.

Telegram dated 26th March 1878.

From—Judicial Secretary, Bombay.

To—Home Secretary, Calcutta.

"COMMISSIONER in Sind telegraphs 107 vagrants arrived Rohri, 100 more expected. Sent into Sind from Central Provinces and North-West Provinces. Commissioner states they want to be allowed to re-commence their tour through Central India. The vagrants are not Beluchis, but call themselves natives of Seistan. Commissioner states to march them to Seistan is impossible. To send them merely across our frontier useless, as they will return. Please telegraph order of Government of India as to their disposal."

Telegram dated 30th March 1878.

From—Home Secretary, Calcutta.

To—The Government of Bombay.

"ON no account should the foreign vagrants be permitted to pass over to Central India, or to any other part of the British dominions. They should be carefully watched where they are. Further orders about their disposal will be issued hereafter."

No. 735.—COPY by Post.

Telegram dated the 10th April 1878.

From—Judicial Secretary, Bombay.

To—Home Secretary, Simla.

"Your telegram of 30th March. When may further orders be expected regarding the foreign vagrants? More have arrived in Sind; and, unless speedy orders are received, additional police guards must be engaged, as otherwise the ordinary escorts for prisoners and other duties will be stopped."

Telegram dated 17th April 1878.

From—Home Secretary, Simla.

To—The Government of Bombay.

"Your telegram of 10th about bands of foreign vagrants deported to Sind. They must on no account be permitted to re-commence their wanderings in Central India, where they prey upon peaceful people. Government of India wish Local Government to pass an order, under Section 3, Act III. of 1864, for their removing themselves, warning them that if they do not comply, or if they return, they will be apprehended and confined. Agent, Governor General, Beluchistan, will be requested to move Chief to prevent their return if possible."

No. 799.—Copy by Post.

No. 800.

Copy of correspondence forwarded to the Foreign Department with reference to their No. 3430, dated 12th December last, and with the request that the necessary communication may be made to the Agent, Governor General, Beluchistan.

No. 801, dated Simla, the 17th April 1878.

From—C. Bernard, Esq., c. s. i., Offg. Secretary to the Government of India, Home Department.

To—The Secretary to the Government of Bombay.

Telegram from Bombay Government dated 26th March 1878.
Ditto to ditto No. 735, dated 30th March 1878.
Ditto from ditto dated 10th April 1878.
Ditto to ditto No. 799, dated 17th April 1878.

With reference to the correspondence noted on the margin, I am directed to state that, as explained in my telegram of the 17th instant, the foreign vagrants in question should on no account be permitted to re-commence their wanderings in Central India, or in any other part of the British dominions. An order should be made by the Local

Government, under Section 3 of Act III. of 1864, directing the vagrants to remove themselves from British India by such route as may be considered expedient, so as to secure their speedy return to their own country. The men should be distinctly warned that should they refuse to comply with such order, or should they come back to India afterwards, they will be apprehended and detained in custody until discharged by the Government of India, or the Local Government concerned, under such terms and conditions as may be deemed necessary. The necessary communication will be made by the Foreign Department to the Agent to the Governor General at Beluchistan, in view to his moving the Native Chief to take such measures as would, if possible, prevent these people from returning to India. The Commissioner in Sind can, if His Excellency the Governor in Council should see fit, communicate with Major Sandeman with this object.

2. It will be seen from the enclosed papers* that a gang of Beluchis, numbering 76, was last year found wandering in the Banda District of the North-Western Provinces, and was allowed to pass on to the Central Provinces. In Banda, however, they were said to have extorted money from innocent villagers on various pretexts. Numerous complaints were laid before the local authorities as to the Beluchis demanding money and supplies from zemindars, shop-keepers and others, and trying to enforce those demands by threats. Possibly these Beluchis form a part of the gang which has now found its way into Sind, and is the subject of the present correspondence. From Madras, from Mysore, and from the Central Provinces, representations have at different times been received regarding the very objectionable way in which these bands of Northern vagrants, pretending to be vendors of precious stones, harry and rob villagers in the different districts through which they travel, or in which they may temporarily sojourn. Under the circumstances, therefore, it is absolutely necessary to deport these people, and to put the law in motion against them if they again attempt to enter British India.

* From Government, North-Western Provinces, No. 976A, dated 7th August 1877, and enclosures.
To Chief Commissioner, Central Provinces, No. 1672—3, dated 6th September 1877, with endorsement.

Telegram dated 10th June 1878.

From—Judicial Secretary, Bombay.

To—Home, Simla.

"Commissioner, Sind, telegraphs as follows: 'Vagrants deported into Beluchistan are returning to Sind near Kambar. Ringleaders will be arrested; but I would suggest that Government of India be asked to request the active assistance of Governor General's Agent in preventing their return.' Message ends. Please move Government of India accordingly."

No. 3423.—Copy forwarded by Post.

No. 1076, dated Simla, the 14th June 1878.

Endorsed by the Home Department.

Copy of the foregoing telegram forwarded to the Foreign Department in continuation of endorsement No. 800, dated 17th April, and with request that the necessary communication may be made to the Governor General's Agent. The Commissioner of Sind has raised doubts whether deportation of this gang to the British border is the best way of dealing with these parties of gipsies, whose nationality is doubtful, and the whole question will be considered in this Department. But meanwhile the co-operation of the Foreign Department, as above indicated, is solicited.

Telegram dated 14th June 1878.

From—Home Secretary, Simla.

To—The Government of Bombay, Judicial Department.

"Your message about threatened return of Beluchi vagrant gangs. Governor General's Agent is being instructed accordingly. Treatment of vagrant gangs under consideration with your letter No. 3232 and enclosure."

No. 1075.—Copy by Post.

No. 3232, dated Bombay Castle, the 30th May 1878.

From—J. Monteath, Esq., Acting Under Secretary to the Government of Bombay, Judicial Department.

To—The Offg. Secretary to the Government of India, Home Department.

With reference to your letter No. 801 of the 17th April last, and the connected correspondence, regarding certain foreign vagrants sent into Sind from the Central Provinces and the North-West Provinces, I am directed to forward to the Government of India for consideration the accompanying copy of a letter from Mr. Melvill, Acting Commissioner in Sind, No. 676, dated the 14th instant, on the subject of allowing large gangs of foreign vagrants to be collected together and sent into a Province with which they have no connection.

2. Copy of the letter No. 249, dated the 24th February last, referred to by Mr. Melvill, also accompanies.

No. 676, dated Kurrachee, the 14th May 1878.

From—F. D. Melvill, Esq., Acting Commissioner in Sind.

To—His Excellency the Governor and President in Council, Bombay.

In reference to Government Resolution, Judicial Department, No. 2591, dated 25th April 1878, and Government Resolution No. 2463,

dated 18th April 1878, I have the honour to observe that the order forwarded by Government under Section 3, Act III. of 1864, did not specify the particular route to be followed. I therefore ordered the vagrants to be escorted as far as Rojhan on the Jacobabad frontier, and there dismissed with orders to return to their own country. I also addressed the Governor General's Agent on the subject of rendering assistance, and I have warned the police along the frontier to arrest any of the vagrants returning into Sind. Photographs of the ringleaders have been kept and full descriptive rolls. I have already reported that another large party of 145 so-called Beluchis are on their way to the Shikarpur District, and will be similarly dealt with.

2. Having thus carried out the orders of Government, I would respectfully urge the impolicy of allowing such large gang of foreign vagrants to be collected and poured into a Province with which they have no connection. When in January last the Lieutenant-Governor of the Punjab telegraphed that the vagrants belonged to Sehwan, I immediately telegraphed back urging further enquiry into their nationality and expressing doubts as to their Sindi origin. However, the vagrants were pushed on, and further streams are still pouring in on to one district of this Province. The police have been taken away from their legitimate duties, and crime has increased in the district. The vagrants have been deported just beyond our frontier, and experience proves conclusively that they will dribble back in small parties through Sind and the Punjab until the difficulty which has lately been met will recur. In the opinion of the best qualified judges the men are Seistanis, but most of the children have been born in India, and the party has gained other additions from purely Indian sources.

3. From the very first the identity of these vagrants with those sent to Sind by Government in 1875 suggested itself to my mind. The sole difficulty of establishing that identity has resulted from a different set of police and officers having had to deal with the two gangs. I forwarded to the Shikarpur Police a full account of the gang of 1875, and they were at once struck with the similarity of names, description and conduct of the vagrants of both gangs. It has now been brought to my notice that with the gang at Sukkur is a lad calling himself a native of Allahabad, named Alah Bux, aged 21, who first wished to be sent back, and now refuses to leave the gang. Mr. LeeWarner, who remembers the gang of 1875, states that there was a lad from Allahabad in that gang who called himself Khoda Bux, aged 18—(*vide* Government Resolution No. 3120, Judicial Department, dated 28th May 1875). Probably the lad is the same, and this is only one of many points of resemblance between the party of 1875 and 1878.

4. I cannot exaggerate the inconvenience which the guarding of this large gang for the last two or three months has caused, and I am apprehensive that, owing to the length of our frontier and its want of police, especially along the desert of the Upper Sind Frontier District, the gang will elude the vigilance of the police and escape back into India. I would earnestly beg that the attention of the Government of India

be called to the subject, so that each Government or Administration in India may adopt a uniform line of conduct, and not merely divest itself of further responsiblity in breaking up such gangs by massing them together and sending them at infinite cost of trouble and money into the adjoining Province. I would beg a reference to paragraph 5 of my letter No. 249, dated 24th February last.

No. 249, dated Camp Karkur, the 24th February 1878.

From—F. D. MELVILL, Esq., Acting Commissioner in Sind.

To—His Excellency the GOVERNOR and PRESIDENT in Council, Bombay.

I HAVE to honour the inform Government that on January 28th last I received from the Secretary to the Punjab Government a telegram informing me that a number of Beluchis were being sent from Central Provinces and the North-West Provinces, *viâ* Delhi, to Sukkur. The number was said to be about 220, including women and children, and their home was said to be Sehwan. I immediately telegraphed back that these vagrants did not belong to Sind, and I now understand that, instead of transporting them by steamer, the party will be marched down by land under a police escort to the Sind frontier.

2. A native of Sind would never leave the Province, and I have little doubt that the vagrants are Persian gypsies who, when they have been escorted at great expense and trouble to Sind, will thence re-commence their tour through India.

3. The actual end of the last gang of vagrants sent to Sind in June 1875 has never been reported to Government, and, as throwing light on the difficulties which result in these wholesale deportations, I beg now to bring it to notice. It will be remembered that the Bombay Government, acting upon a principle which unfortunately had not been adopted by the authorities elsewhere at an earlier stage, took great pains to split up the gang of 300 so-called Heratee vagrants, who were suddenly cast on their frontier in Sholapur. Of them a portion were sent to Kurrachee on May 28th with orders to deport them to Lus Beyla, which was believed to be their country. After much prevarication and most careful enquiry, during which they asserted themselves to be Beluchis from the neighbourhood of Sehwan and again Mekranis, they were proved to be Persians; and they finally declared that they had fled from Kirman Territory on account of the tyranny of the Gujars. They were then embarked for Bushire by order of Sir W. Merewether in the S. S. *Punjab* under a police guard. They were very furious at this decision, which they fancied would prevent the possibility of their return to India. Accordingly they bided their time, and on the arrival of the ship at Bunder Abbass they mutinied, overpowered the guard, and took to the boats, and so escaped to the shore.

4. The enormous expenditure which the deportation of that gang from Mysore through the Nizam's territory, till it was finally dissipated in all parts of India, caused to Government, and the trouble it gave to the police, suggest the necessity for preventing similar deportation. I find that in 1869 and again in 1873 similar gangs were sent to this Province.

5. Experience therefore shows that the difficulty is a recurring one, and the costly and clumsy process of gang deportation does not provide a proper remedy. The fact also that these vagrants travel in all parts of India suggests that whatever orders are issued should be issued by the Government of India for general guidance. It has been found that in some parts of India these people obtain licenses to carry arms and permission to travel by certain routes. Their statement of the country to which they belong is varied according to the circumstances of the time, and when the gangs are travelling in great force the timid cultivators in rural districts are afraid to resist their demands or interfere with them. On approaching towns they separate more or less, and, gypsy fashion, obtain subsistence by selling small articles of ware and petty thieving. In course of time as they move forward the sub-divisions again coalesce. The several parties are under jemadars, who direct their movements and regulate their disputes. The first point seems to me to be their separation; for when once the gang is suffered to be massed together and escorted by the police, it is impossible for one district to act differently from another, and a force of police from the very South to the very North or the East to the West of India is moved away from its proper duties to control their movements.

I would venture to suggest that the gangs should never be allowed to collect together; that on their approach into any district the greatest severity which the law permits should be used towards their leaders; that any members of the gang who commit offences should be promptly punished, and, if practicable, removed beyond the possibility of rejoining the gang. The children might, if possible, be sent to some school of industry. If the vagrants are, as in most instances is the case, foreign vagrants, a few of them, and not the whole gang, might be deported, and photographs of the men so deported should be taken, and intimation given to the Inspectors General or Commissioners of Police throughout India. Should the men so deported re-appear, the photographs and descriptive rolls would enable them to be identified and dealt with under Act III. of 1864.

6. If Government concur with me, it would be desirable to ascertain how far these wandering gangs have increased in recent years in each Province of India; and on behalf of this Province I would beg to represent that none of the vagrants, who have claimed Sind as their home, have belonged to it, and sending them forward to Kurrachee or Sukkur merely adds work to a force of police which is already overtaxed, and increases the mileage travelled by the vagrants more or less at the public expense without bringing them nearer a permanent resting-place.

SERVICE TELEGRAM.

No. 1630 G, dated the 19th June 1878.

From—Foreign, Simla.

To—The Offg. Agent, Governor General, for Beluchistan, Quetta.

My telegram 26th April. Following telegram received from Government, Bombay: Message begins, 10th June. Commissioner, Sind, telegraphs as follows: Vagrants deported into Beluchistan are returning to Sind near Kambar. Ringleaders will be arrested, but I would suggest that Government of India be asked to request the active assistance of Governor General's Agent in preventing their return. Message ends. Please move Government of India accordingly. Message ends. Please co-operate accordingly.

No. 1632 G.

Endorsed by the Foreign Department.

Copy of the above forwarded to the Home Department for information with reference to the endorsement thence No. 1076, dated 14th June 1878.

No. 1160, dated Simla, the 27th June 1878.

Endorsed by the Home Department.

Copy forwarded to the Government of Bombay in continuation of telegram No. 1075, dated the 14th instant.

SERVICE MESSAGE.

Dated the 20th June 1878.

From—Mr. Bruce, Quetta.

To—Foreign, Simla.

Assistant Agent, Jacobabad, sent Khan's Naib to prevent vagrants returning to Sind. Have again telegraphed him to co-operate.

No. 1715 G, dated Simla, the 28th June 1878.

Endorsed by the Foreign Department.

Copy of the above forwarded to the Home Department for information in continuation of No. 1632 G, dated the 19th instant.

No. 1226, dated Simla, the 6th July 1878.

Endorsed by the Home Department.

Copy forwarded to the Government of Bombay in continuation of endorsement No. 1160, dated the 27th ultimo.

No. 3781, dated Bombay Castle, the 1st July 1878.

From—J. Nugent, Esq., Under Secretary to the Government of Bombay, Judicial Department.

To—The Offg. Secretary to the Government of India, Home Dept.

In reference to previous correspondence on the subject of the Beluchi vagrant gangs, I am directed to forward herewith, for the information of the Government of India, copy of a letter from the Commissioner in Sind No. 838, dated the 20th June 1878, with accompaniment, and of the Resolution of this Government on it No. 3780 of this day's date.

No. 838, dated Kurrachee, the 20th June 1878.

From—J. B. Peile, Esq., Acting Commissioner in Sind.

To—His Excellency the Governor and President in Council, Bombay.

I have the honour to forward a copy of the District Magistrate of Shikarpur's letter No. 2444, of 13th instant, to Government for orders. Mr. Melvill left on record his anticipations of the difficulties which would arise from the execution of the orders of Government, and in paragraph 2 of this Office letter No. 676, dated 14th May last, expressed his fears that the vagrants would return to Sind. It was for this reason that he originally proposed their deportation to Bushire. Every endeavour was, however, made to prevent their return. As soon as I heard of their re-appearance I issued orders to arrest the ringleaders and push the gangs back again across the frontier.

2. It now appears that in accordance with my orders—
Ghulam Husain,
Bahadur Khan and
Shah Muhammad Khan

have been arrested and are detained pending the orders of Government under Section 4, Act III. of 1864. I could wish that the prompt apprehension of these men might deter the rest, but I fear that the inhospitable character of the country between Sind and Seistan will compel a large gang consisting of many women and children, many of whom have been born in British India, to risk the consequences of their return. In view of this contingency I would ask for any further orders Government may think called for. The Officiating Governor General's Agent, Beluchistan, was again addressed on the 13th instant.

No. 2444, dated Camp Sukkur, the 13th June 1878.

From—Lieutenant-Colonel R. WALLACE, District Magistrate of Shikarpur.

To—The Commissioner in Sind.

As directed in your telegram dated 1st instant, I have the honour to report that the gang of Beluchi vagrants which were sent out of Sind under the escort of the police by way of Jacobabad and Rajhan, and which have returned into the Kambar taluka of the Larkana Division, have again been escorted across our border into Kelat territory.

2. The three leading men, or jemedars of this gang, having been sent to me by the District Superintendent of Police, I called upon them to state their reasons for returning into Sind, as they had been specially warned not to do so.

3. From their statement it appears that on being escorted into Kelat territory by the Jacobabad Police, they were left to their own devices, and that finding water scarce and the people of the country wild and inhospitable, they made their way back into Sind.

4. I now beg to solicit instructions as to the course to be pursued with respect to these jemedars.

5. I would also beg to remark that unless arrangements are made with the Kelat authorities to escort these vagrants across Kelat into Seistan, their return into Sind will be certain.

6. A second gang has been stopped at Mehar, and enquiries as to their nationality are now being made.

Extract from the Proceedings of the Government of Bombay in the Judicial Department,—No. 3780, *dated Bombay Castle, the* 1*st July* 1878.

READ letter from the Acting Commissioner in Sind No. 838, dated 20th June 1878—Forwards, for orders, copy of a letter (No. 2444, dated the 13th idem) from the District Magistrate of Shikarpur, on the subject of the Beluchi vagrants, and states that Mr. Melvill left on record his anticipations of the difficulties which would arise from the execution of the orders of Government, and in paragraph 2 of his letter No. 676 of 14th May last, expressed his fears that the vagrants would return to Sind, and he therefore proposed their deportation to Bushire. The Commissioner states further that every endeavour was made to prevent the return of the vagrants, and that as soon as he heard of their re-appearance he issued orders to arrest the ringleaders and push the gangs back across the frontier, and that, in accordance with his orders, Ghulam Hussain, Bahdur Khan, and Shah Muhamuad Khan have been arrested and are detained pending the orders of Government under Section 4, Act III. of 1864. Adds that he could wish that the prompt apprehension of these men

might deter the rest, but that he fears that the inhospitable character of the country between Sind and Seistan will compel a large gang consisting of many women and children, many of whom have been born in British India, to risk the consequences of their return, and, in view of this contingency, asks for any further orders Government may think called for.

RESOLUTION.—The Commissioner in Sind should urge the Govnor General's Agent, Beluchistan, to insist on the Kelat authorities conveying these vagrants to Seistan. The three men apprehended might, unless the Commissioner in Sind sees any reason to the contrary, be sent with the others, but all the vagrants should be warned again that, if they return to India, they will be imprisoned.

2. Copy of Mr. Peile's letter should be forwarded to the Government of India in reference to previous correspondence.

(True Extract.)

J. NUGENT,

Under Secretary to the Govt. of Bombay,
Judicial Department.

No. 4375, dated Bombay Castle, the 29th July 1878.

From—J. MONTEATH, Esq., Acting Under Secretary to the Government of Bombay, Judicial Department.

To—The Offg. Secretary to the Government of India, Home Department.

WITH reference to previous correspondence on the subject of the Beluchi vagrant gangs, ending with this Office letter No. 3781 of the 1st instant, I am directed to forward herewith, for the information of the Government of India, copy of a memorandum from the Acting Commissioner in Sind No. 937, dated the 11th instant, with accompaniments, and of the Resolution of this Government on it No. 4374, of this day's date.

No. 409, dated Quetta, the 28th June 1878.

From—R. J. BRUCE, Esq., Offg. Agent, Governor General, Beluchistan.

To—The Acting Commissioner in Sind.

WITH reference to your letter No. 805, dated the 13th June 1878, I have the honour to inform you that, on the receipt of the correspondence referred to in my No. 245 of the 14th May last, from the Government of India, I at once issued orders by telegraph to the Assistant Agent, Governor General, Jacobabad, to concert measures

with Colonel Nuttal, Superintendent of the Upper Sind Frontier, and Naib Pir Jan, Agent to His Highness the Khan at Jacobabad, for carrying out the objects of Government with respect to the vagrants, and directed him to warn all officials and sirdars on the route to take measures to prevent their returning to British India or remaining in Beluchistan. I subsequently received a reply from the Assistant Agent to say that this had been done.

2. I also addressed the Khan of Kelat on the subject, and asked His Highness to issue orders to his Naibs directing them to co-operate with the Assistant Agent, Governor General, in carrying out the wishes of Government, which request His Highness readily complied with, sending written orders to them to the same effect.

No. 936, dated Kurrachee, the 11th July 1878.

From—J. B. Peile, Esq., Acting Commissioner in Sind.

To—The Agent, Governor General, Beluchistan.

I have to acknowledge receipt of your letter No. 409, dated 28th June 1878, informing me of the measures promptly taken by you to give effect to the instructions of Government in regard to certain vagrants forwarded from the Punjab for deportation.

2. Under Government Resolution No. 3780, dated 1st July 1878, I am again directed by Government to address you with a view to your urging on the Kelat authorities the propriety of pushing the vagrants on to Seistan.

3. I have to inform you that one party re-appeared recently in the Shikarpur District, and after arresting the ringleaders I ordered the rest to be sent back over the frontier.

4. Yesterday I received intimation of another party making its appearance in the Northern part of the Kurrachee District. I have now ordered that if the vagrants again re-enter this Province they shall be escorted back to Jacobabad, and there handed over again to the Assistant to the Governor General's Agent, who will, I trust, be able to deal with them so effectually as to prevent a recurrence of the grave inconvenience which their return to British India occasion.

No. 937.

True copies submitted to the Government of Bombay in reference to Government Resolution No. 3780, dated 1st July 1878, and with an expression of opinion that if the vagrants return and are again deported, it will then be the proper time to release and deport the three jemadars now apprehended and in custody.

Extract from the Proceedings of the Government of Bombay in the Judicial Department,—No. 4374, *dated Bombay Castle, the* 29*th July* 1878.

READ—

Memorandum from the Acting Commissioner in Sind No. 937, dated 11th July 1878—Forwards, with reference to Government Resolution No. 3780, dated 1st July 1878, copy of a letter from the Officiating Agent, Governor General, Beluchistan, together with a copy of his reply to that officer relative to the measures adopted to prevent the re-appearence of vagrants in the Shikarpur District, and the appearance of another party in the Northern part of the Kurrachee District; and expresses his opinion that, if the vagrants return and are again deported, it will then be the proper time to release and deport the three jemadars now apprehended and in custody.

RESOLUTION.—The course proposed by the Commissioner to be followed with respect to the three jemadars referred to is approved.

2. Copy of these papers should be forwarded to the Government of India with reference to previous correspondence.

(True Extract.)

J. MONTEATH,

Acting Under Secretary to the Govt. of Bombay.

No. 142, dated Simla, the 28th June 1878.

From—C. BERNARD, Esq., C. S. I., Offg. Secretary to the Government of India, Home Department.

To—The Chief Commissioner of the Central Provinces.

I AM directed to acknowledge your letter No. 1965—68, dated the 24th ultimo, submitting the police report of the Central Provinces for 1877, with the Judicial Commissioner's remarks and your own review thereon.

2. The report is full and interesting, and has been carefully reviewed by you. Notwithstanding the increase of crime over the preceding year, the action of the police has been successful, especially in the cases of dacoity, robbery and theft.

3. The only point which calls for any special remarks from the Government of India relates to the circumstance* that a gang or gangs of Heratees have been wandering about the Raipur and other districts levying black-mail from the villagers. Stringent measures should be

* Paragraph 2, clause 5, of the Judicial Commissioner's remarks, and paragraph 67 of the report.

adopted for the treatment of these foreigners in the districts under your control, when they are found to be habitually preying upon or molesting the people. The district authorities should be prepared to arrest these marauders if they violate the law or cheat or plunder British subjects. The sentence passed upon the man who killed the leader of a gang when attempting to enter a village in the Raipur District, in spite of the opposition of himself and other villagers, may or may not have been right; but at the same time it may seem to the people rather hard that they should be exposed to the depredations of these vagrants and should be punished for trying to keep them out of their villages.

Notification No. 1261, dated Simla, the 1st September 1869.

THE Governor General in Council is pleased to extend the provisions of Act III. of 1864 to the Province of British Burma.

The Governor General in Council is also pleased under the provisions of Section 1 of Act III. of 1864 to invest the Chief Commissioner of British Burma with the powers conferred upon a Local Government by the said Act.

E. C. BAYLEY,
Secretary to the Govt. of India, Home Dept.

No. 1262.

COPY forwarded to the Chief Commissioner of British Burma for information with reference to his Secretary's letter No. 178—9, dated 19th July last, and attention drawn to paragraph 5 of the Government circular dated 12th November 1868, copy of which was enclosed in this Office communication No. 2119, dated 7th May last.

No. 2582, dated the 17th August 1878.

From—J. G. CORDERY, Esq., Offg. Secretary to the Government of the Punjab.

To—The Offg. Secretary to the Govt. of India, Home Dept.

I HAVE the honour to forward copy of the letters marginally noted from the Inspector General of Police regarding the manner in which the expenses of deporting vagrants under Act III. of 1864 is at present charged against the Punjab Government, and to request the orders of the Government of India on the subject.

From Inspector General of Police No. 167, dated 30th April 1878.
Ditto No. 185, dated 22nd May 1878.
Ditto No. 260, dated 3rd July 1878.

2. In the present instance a gang of 202 Beluchis were sent up under the orders of the Government of the Central Provinces, and the expenses of their support and of their escorts while in the Punjab amounts to Rs. 1,593-2-6. A similar party has been escorted, who

were originally forwarded from Bengal, and this claim still remai unsettled. In the case of a previous party of Pathans sent by t Meywar Durbar the expenses were defrayed by that State; but in t other instances quoted the charge will in all probability have to borne by this Government unless the matter is regulated by the Gc ernment of India.

3. His Honor desires me to represent that the cost of such deport tions falls with peculiar severity upon the frontier Province of the Empi

4. In cases in which it seems advisable to continue the acti taken by the Government which originally despatched such parties fro its jurisdiction it will perhaps be deemed equitable that the Governme which issued the original order should bear the whole cost of the escort into their own country. For it is to be borne in mind that ar property which is in the possession of such men is ordinarily seiz upon their first arrest and disposed of to meet the first expenses. B the time they reach the Punjab they are destitute and unable to defra the expenses of their daily sustenance. Yet, as the law is at preser worked, it would hardly appear to be within the option of this Govern ment to release them, even though no danger were apprehended fro such a step.

No. 167, dated the 30th April 1878.

From—The Inspector General of Police, Punjab.

To—The Secretary to the Government of the Punjab.

In reply to your No 1213, dated 23rd April, I have the honour t enclose a printed copy of the correspondence noted within regardin a large gang of Beluchi vagrants deported from the Central Provinces and to offer the following observations.

2. The cost of feeding foreign vagrants and of carrying th children and weak amongst the women is so great, and the expense o a road escort is so large, that it is much cheaper to deport them by rai than by road, and hence the former plan is always adopted.

3. As Government is aware, we have had several large gangs t deal with this cold season, and in each case the Government or Adminis tration originally despatching the gangs sent them by rail. According t existing financial rule the Punjab Government being the last on th line of route home fares the worst. When these gangs are seized the usually possess a number of ponies and a considerable amount of pro perty which is sold off and suffices to pay the journey up to the Punjab The gang is left in possession of a small sum, and it is impossible t touch this, as we cannot release the people on the borders of foreign territory without leaving them the means of subsistence. Thus th deportation of foreigners costs nothing to the Government responsibl for giving the orders of deportation, but a heavy charge is thrown or the Punjab.

4. It would seem to me just that the Government which seizes and deports the gang should bear the entire expense subject to any recovery which may reasonably and properly be made from the foreigners themselves. Or if this be negatived, that the value of the property taken from the foreigners by the Government seizing and deporting them should be credited rateably (according to the expenses incurred) to each of the Governments concerned in despatching and forwarding such foreigners. The principle on which my first suggestion is founded is that the Government which has to bear the expense will be most careful to adopt all preventive and punitive means allowed by law before adopting deportation and will only deport when other methods fail.

5. No recoveries could be made from the foreigners towards meeting the bills submitted for sanction.

No. 185, dated the 22nd May 1878.

From—The Inspector General of Police, Punjab.

To—The Secretary to the Government of the Punjab.

In reply to your No. 1406 of the 6th April (May ?) regarding the Beluchi vagrants, I have the honour to state that at Delhi they were thoroughly searched by Major Ewart and a sum of Rs. 200 found on them. The ponies and other property sold by the Central Provinces authorities realized a large sum; but after paying the railway fare to Delhi the balance handed over to the gang was only Rs. 248-14, and part of this was spent in buying food by the way. As stated in the 3rd paragraph of my No. 167 of the 30th April, the gang was left in possession of a small sum. Even had the agates found on the Beluchis been sold and every penny taken from them, we should not have realized more than a small fraction of the expenses incurred, and the gang would have been released in a starving condition at Mooltan.

No. 260, dated the 3rd July 1878.

From—The Inspector General of Police, Punjab.

To—The Secretary to the Government of the Punjab.

I have the honour to explain, in reply to your letter No. 1909 of the 21st June, that we have had several parties of foreign vagrants deported through the Punjab lately:

One small party of Pathans sent up at the cost of the Meywar Durbar.

A large party of Beluchis (202 persons) sent up from the Damoh District of the Central Provinces. This is the gang whose charges are under reference.

A large party of Beluchis sent up from the Chumparun District of Bengal (see your letter No. 42 of 7th January, Foreign Department). This party did not come up until April.

2. In my No. 167 of the 30th April I explained that under the operation of the present financial rules (see correspondence ending with your No. 2080 of 30th July 1877) the Punjab Government was a great loser. The order for deportation was given in the present case by the Central Provinces Administration. Its execution cost that Administration nothing, but the expense to the Punjab Government has been very considerable.

3. I return your enclosures, and beg to state that my No. 185 of the 22nd May refers to this gang.

No. 1985, dated Simla, the 25th October 1878.

From—C. BERNARD, Esq., C. S. I., Offg. Secretary to the Govt. of India, Home Department.

To—The Secretary to the Government of the Punjab.

I AM directed to acknowledge your letter No. 2582, dated the 17th August last, regarding a gang of Beluchi vagrants recently deported under the provisions of Act III. of 1864 from the Central Provinces to the Punjab to be forwarded on to their country. The Punjab Government consider that it would be more equitable that the Local Government which issued the original order of deportation should bear the whole cost of transporting and escorting such vagrants to their own country.

2. In reply I am to invite the attention of His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor to Rule VI. of the Provincial Service Rules circulated with Financial Resolution No. 1709, dated the 22nd March 1877, which runs: " A Local Government must accept, without remonstrance, any charge which would, under the system in force before 1871-72, have been recorded under any of the transferred heads of account in the accounts of its Presidency or Province, and must not raise objections on such grounds as that the charge has originated outside the Presidency or Province." This rule would appear to apply exactly to the present case, and it is clear that the charges incurred in the Pnnjàb in this instance would, under the previous system, have been recorded under the head of "Police" in that Province. Under these circumstances His Excellency the Governor General in Council regrets that he is unable to recognize any claim to refunds on this account, either from the Central Provinces or any other Province.

SELECTIONS

FROM THE

RECORDS OF THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA,

HOME DEPARTMENT.

157

No. CLVII.

VAGRANT BANDS OF FOREIGNERS.

Published by Authority.

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1879.